Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-065
Wednesday
4 April 1990

Daily Report
East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-065 4 April 1990

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

BULGARIA

Further on National Assembly Session *[BTA]* 1
Assembly Session Ends *[BTA]* 1
Work of Ninth National Assembly Reviewed *[BTA]* 1
Agreement on Grand National Assembly *[ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 31 Mar]* 2
Agreement on Political Parties Law *[ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 31]* 4
Military Prosecutor Investigates Lovech Camp *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 27 Mar]* 6
Commission Investigates Labor Camp 'Crimes' *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Further on Investigation *[BTA]* 6
Opposition Holds Rally in Stara Zagora *[Sofia Radio]* 7
Lilov Answers Rally Participants' Questions *[DEMOKRATSIYA 21 Mar]* 7
Lilov Speaks at Stara Zagora Rally *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 30 Mar]* 8
Serbezov on BCP Referendum on Party's Name *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 27 Mar]* 9
Lilov on BCP's New Name *[Sofia Radio]* 9
Further on New Name *[BTA]* 10
Supreme Council Adopts Name *[BTA]* 10
Ecoglasnost To Remain 'Opposition' Movement *[BTA]* 11
Government Takes Measures for Privatization *[BTA]* 11
BZNS Criticizes Privatization Program *[BTA]* 12
Rules for Private Foreign Currency Sales Changed *[BTA]* 12
Further on Removing Price Controls on Some Goods *[BTA]* 12
National Bank Announces 'Floating Exchange Rate' *[BTA]* 12
New Exchange Rate for Dollar Established *[BTA]* 12
'Nikola Petkov' BZNS Leader Denies Unification *[BTA]* 13
Agreement Reported on Parties' Unification *[BTA]* 13
Conservative Party Founded in Sofia *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 31 Mar]* 13
More Information About Nuclear Program Sought
[Tsigularov in RABOTNICHESKO DELO 26 Mar] 13
Citizens Submit Applications To Change Names *[OTECHESTVEN FRONT 27 Mar]* 14
Further on Name Changing *[BTA]* 15
Lilov Receives CPSU's Rafail Fedorov *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 1 Apr]* 15
USSR Trade Representative Views Relations *[POGLED, No. 14, 2 Apr]* 15
'Anti-Bulgarian' Views Noted in SFRY *[OTECHESTVEN FRONT 26 Mar]* 16
EC To Lift Import Quotas for Nation's Goods *[BTA]* 17
Need for Foreign Workers Questioned *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 30 Mar]* 17
Proposal To Eliminate Exit Visas Discussed *[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 24 Mar]* 18
Changes in Passport Regulations Expected *[TRUD 29 Mar]* 18

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

National Leaders Address Czech, Slovak Problems 20
Slovak Premier Cic Interviewed *[Vienna DIE PRESSE 3 Apr]* 20
Cic Speech Considers Republic's Name *[ROLNICKE NOVINY 2 Apr]* 21
Czech, Slovak Premiers Issue Statements *[Prague Radio]* 22
Dubcek, Slovak Leaders Reject Extremism *[Bratislava Radio]* 23
Civic Forum, VPN Statement Urges Discussion *[Prague Radio]* 23
Prague Hospital Releases Havel 3 Apr *[Prague TV]* 23
Havel's Scandinavia Trip Postponed; Health Cited *[Prague Radio]* 23
Dienstbier Continues Diplomatic Effort in UK 24
Visits British Parliament *[CTK]* 24

Discussions With Counterpart Douglas Hurd *[Prague TV]* 24
Interviewed During Visit *[Prague Radio]* 24
Proposes European Security Commission *[CTK]* 24
Leaves for Home *[CTK]* 25
Slovak Officials Receive U.S. Ambassador *[CTK]* 25
Carnogursky on Talks With Eagleburger *[CTK]* 25
Trade Minister Signs Protocol With USSR *[CTK]* 25
Prague Demonstrators Support Baltic Independence *[Prague Radio]* 26
Finance Minister Defends Federal Draft Budget *[Bratislava PRAVDA 24 Mar]* 26
Government Discusses New Economic Laws *[RUDE PRAVO 27 Mar]* 26
Constitutional Commission Meets in Prague *[Prague Radio]* 27
Sacher on KGB Cooperation on Terrorism, Drugs *[CTK]* 27
Sacher Reports Arrest of Gen Lorenc *[Prague TV]* 28
Iron Curtain Crumbles Along West German Border *[RUDE PRAVO 27 Mar]* 28
Two Army Deserters Apprehended in Austria *[RUDE PRAVO 27 Mar]* 28
Illegal Zirconium Imports To Be Investigated *[RUDE PRAVO 30 Mar]* 28
Abolition of Death Penalty Discussed *[RUDE PRAVO 28 Mar]* 29
Trade Unions Reject Draft Law on Association *[PRACE 27 Mar]* 29
Skoda Broken Up; New Independent Enterprises *[MLADA FRONTA 30 Mar]* 29
Miners Demand Changes in Health, Age Codes *[CTK]* 29
Schuster Quits CPCZ; Slovak Communists React *[Bratislava PRAVDA 29 Mar]* 30
Control Committee Verifying CPCZ Property *[Prague Radio]* 30
Slovak National Council Debates State Budget *[Bratislava PRAVDA 31 Mar]* 30
Slovak Presidium Considers Several Proposals *[Bratislava PRAVDA 29 Mar]* 32
Ethnic Minorities Movement Established *[Bratislava PRAVDA 2 Apr]* 32
Minority Spokesman Promotes Constitution *[PRACE 27 Mar]* 32
Moravians, Silesians Declare 'Federal State' *[Bratislava PRAVDA 2 Apr]* 33
Democratic Union of Romanies Holds Congress *[Bratislava PRAVDA 2 Apr]* 33
Czech National Council Elects 40 New Judges *[PRACE 31 Mar]* 33
Czechoslovak Social Democracy Leader on Elections *[CTK]* 34
Civic, Social Justice Party's Martinek Interview *[CTK]* 34
People's Party Congress Opens Deliberations *[Prague Radio]* 34
CTK Notes Parties' Coalition for Elections 34
People's Party, Christian Democrats Coalition *[Prague Radio]* 35
'Dialogue of Friendship and Cooperation' Formed *[Prague Radio]* 35
Council for Humanitarian Cooperation Established *[RUDE PRAVO 27 Mar]* 35

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Parties Agree To Form Government by Easter *[ADN]* 36
Kohl Criticized on Polish Border Issue *[Herold in BERLINER ZEITUNG 31 Mar-1 Apr]* 36
Stasi Activities Disclosed in PDS Order *[Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE 29 Mar]* ... 36
Gysi Calls for Probe Into Deputies' Past *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 2 Apr]* 37
SPD's Boehme in Seclusion After Hospital Stay *[Hamburg BILD 4 Apr]* 37
Investigations Into Honecker, Others To Continue *[ADN]* 38
Honecker, Wife Taken to Soviet Hospital *[Hamburg BILD 4 Apr]* 38
Planned Exchange Rate Criticized *[BERLINER ZEITUNG 2 Apr]* 39
Enterprises Seek To Lay Off Foreign Workers *[Hamburg DPA]* 39
Parties Discuss New Government, Currency Proposal *[ADN]* 39
Initial Coalition Talks Begin in Berlin *[ADN]* 40
SPD Deputies Elect Schroeder Chairman *[ADN]* 40
Liberals Praise SPD Coalition Move Decision *[ADN]* 40
SPD Recommends Abolishing 7 Oct Holiday *[NEUE ZEIT 31 Mar]* 40
Rostock DA Chairman Resigns, Switches to CDU *[ADN]* 40
Berlin DSU Chairman Quits To Join CDU *[ADN]* 40
Maleuda To Stand for People's Chamber Presidency *[ADN]* 40
Request for Ban on FRG Papers Rejected *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 2 Apr]* 41
New Weekly Independent Publications Established 41
Current Affairs Weekly *[ADN]* 41
Left-Wing Weekly *[ADN]* 41
Branch of Amnesty International Established *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND]* 41

AIDS Relief Group Founded in Berlin *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 26 Mar]* 41
German-Japanese Society Founded; Officers Elected *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 2 Apr]* 42
De Maziere Congratulates Kohl on Birthday *[ADN]* 42

HUNGARY

Horn Cited on Bratislava Summit, Lithuania *[MTI]* 43
Electoral Official Interviewed on Second Round *[Budapest Radio]* 43
Parties' Mandate Distribution Detailed *[Budapest Radio]* 43
Szuros, Horn Address MSZP Rally on Elections *[Budapest Radio]* 44
Budapest Plays Host to Interpol Conference *[MTI]* 44
Journalist Associations Call for Media Freedom *[Budapest Radio]* 44
FRG-Based Company Takes Over County Newspapers *[MTI]* 44
More on New Dailies *[MTI]* 45
Springer Denies Contract With MSZP *[Budapest Radio]* 45
Nemeth Birthday Message to Kohl Praises Efforts *[MTI]* 45

POLAND

Daily Calls For Soviet-Lithuanian Dialogue *[Fikus in RZECZPOSPOLITA 28 Mar]* 46
Geremek Addresses Lithuanian Parliament *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 28 Mar]* 46
Gorbachev Handling of Republics Issue Viewed *[Ksiezarczyk in ZYCIE WARSZAWY 2 Apr]* 46
Soviets Relax Rules on Border Crossing *[Warsaw Radio]* 47
Border Crossing Requires 'Valid Soviet Visa' *[Warsaw TV]* 47
Lithuanian Representative Praises Support *[PAP]* 47
Bus Routes to Vilnius To Be Suspended 9 Apr *[Warsaw Radio]* 47
Paper in Vilnius Protests Closure Attempts *[Warsaw TV]* 48
Skubiszewski Seeks Treaty With Unified Germany *[Madrid ABC 18 Mar]* 48
Skubiszewski Calls for 'Community of Interests' *[PAP]* 49
Military Advisor on 'Polish-German Brigades' *[ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI 28 Mar]* 50
Amsterdam Conference on East Europe Ends *[PAP]* 50
Czeslaw Kiszczak Signs Application for Interpol *[PAP]* 51
Daily Analyses Polish Right, Catholic Influence *[Luft in RZECZPOSPOLITA 26 Mar]* 51
Interior Ministry on Foreigners Buying Property *[GAZETA WYBORCZA 28 Mar]* 52
Walesa Denies Having Quarrel With Mazowiecki *[Warsaw Radio]* 52
Michnik Discusses 'Democratic Movement' *[TANJUG]* 53
Mazowiecki, Senators Discuss Status of Warsaw *[PAP]* 53

ROMANIA

Deputy Foreign Trade Minister's Talks in Egypt *[ROMPRES]* 54
Deputy Foreign Minister Holds Talks in PRC *[ROMPRES]* 54
Ex-King Michael To Spend Easter in Romania *[AFP]* 54
Roman on Nationality Issue, Army Intervention *[ROMPRES]* 54
Roman on Ethnic Issues, 'Tension' *[Hamburg DIE WELT 3 Apr]* 56
Envoy Urges 'Correction' in Polish News Coverage *[Budapest Radio]* 57
Iliescu Visits Timisoara, Holds Talks *[Bucharest Radio]* 57
Commends 'Example of Tolerance' *[ROMPRES]* 57
Claims 'No Hidden Purpose' *[ROMPRES]* 58
Gypsies Sentenced for Tirgu Mures Incidents *[Budapest Radio]* 59
Deputy Defense Minister Meets Doru Braia *[ROMPRES]* 59
Andruta Ceausescu Charged With Genocide *[ROMPRES]* 59
Romania Applies To Join Council of Europe *[Bucharest Radio]* 59
Romania To Join Eutelsat Organization *[ROMPRES]* 60
* Proclamation by Timisoara Residents *[ROMANIA LIBERA 20 Mar]* 60

YUGOSLAVIA

Resignation of Kosovo Officials Rumored *[TANJUG]* 64
Reports Note Situation in Kosovo *[Pristina Radio]* 64
International Rights Official on Kosovo *[RILINDJA 30 Mar]* 64

SAWP Discusses Loss of Albanian Members *[RILINDJA 30 Mar]* 66
News Conference on Situation in Kosovo *[BORBA 28 Mar]* 66
Union of Independent Kosovo Journalists Forms *[TANJUG]* 67
Serbian National Resistance on Fate of Serbia *[TANJUG]* 67
Trifunovic Talks About Serbia in Timok Area *[TANJUG]* 68
Serb Representative Walks Out of Session *[BORBA 24-25 Mar]* 68
Croatia To Withdraw Contingent from Kosovo *[TANJUG]* 69
New Parties Registered in Croatia *[TANJUG]* 69
Democratic Alliance of Croatia Political Broadcast *[Zagreb Radio]* 69
Croatian Elections Scheduled 21, 22 Apr *[POLITIKA 24 Mar]* 69
Bosnia-Hercegovina CC Presidium Statement *[TANJUG]* 70
Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Rejects Accusations *[TANJUG]* 71
Religious Communities Urged To Support Reforms *[TANJUG]* 71
Bosnia-Hercegovina National Groups Criticized *[TANJUG]* 71
Kucan Addresses Slovene Election Rally *[TANJUG]* 72
Slovenia's Potrc on Changing Federation *[TANJUG]* 72
Election Posters Link Ribicic With Stalin *[Ljubljana Radio]* 72
Ljubljana, Maribor Poll Shows Kucan Leading *[DELO 30 Mar]* 72
Greens Lead in Slovene Opinion Poll *[DELO 31 Mar]* 73
Communists 'Stand Chance' in Next Elections *[Rakocevic-Novakovic in OSLOBODJENJE 25 Mar]* 74
Montenegro LC Demands Opening of Archives *[TANJUG]* 75
Markovic on Restructuring National Economy *[TANJUG]* 75
Hrvatin Nominated for SAWPY Presidency *[TANJUG]* 75
Talks Held With French on Visa Issue *[Belgrade Radio]* 76

Further on National Assembly Session

AU0304112090 Sofia BTA in English 1056 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—The National Assembly session continues. In the Law of the Political Parties, the section regulating assistance from abroad caused sharp disputes as it had at Friday's [30 March] discussion. The arguments of some of the MP's [members of parliament] were that the parties' financing from foreign citizens and organizations places them under foreign dependence.

This section passed to be voted on after Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov interfered and appealed for a political compromise which was reached at the roundtable in the name of the peaceful transition to a democratic society. I am convinced, he said, that the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] and the Bulgarian Agrarian Party [BZNS], which have signed the agreement on the political parties, will serve as examples for keeping the agreement. (The BCP has 69 percent of the present composition of Parliament, while the BZNS has 24.7 percent)

This text of the law was approved with 55 votes against and 34 abstentions.

The following amendments were adopted to it: In a year, assistance by one and the same person or group of people can be received only once. The political parties are also obliged to systematically inform society about the assistance they have received.

The law was voted on as a whole too.

Assembly Session Ends

AU0304122290 Sofia BTA in English 1141 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—Petur Mladenov, former State Council president was unanimously elected president of Bulgaria.

He was relieved of his position as a M.P. [member of parliament]

After he swore an oath, Petur Mladenov delivered a program speech in which he declared readiness for observing the voted constitutional changes, for establishing conditions for carrying off democratic elections and for support of the government economic program.

(Information about Mladenov's speech we transmit separately.)

In compliance with the amendments and addenda of the Constitution voted today, the National Assembly dissolved. It will continue to exercise ad interim its functions until the new Parliament is elected. The State Council was removed.

In his final speech Stanko Todorov, the National Assembly chairman stressed at the turning point towards democratic changes in Parliament's activity after November 10, 1989. For less than a six-month period there have been six sessions. 35 laws as well as a number of significant documents of decisive importance to the peaceful transition towards democracy and coming out of the economic crisis were adopted. The legislative activity was realized in compliance with public opinion.

Stanko Todorov gave its due to the national roundtable whose political agreements had a favourable influence on Parliament's activity.

Work of Ninth National Assembly Reviewed

AU0304194090 Sofia BTA in English 1702 GMT 3 Apr 90

["Peaceful Start to Democracy"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—In Bulgaria an important step has been made for a peaceful transition from totalitarianism to a democratic society. For the first time in the modern history of the country the National Assembly dissolved itself. The conditions are created for holding free democratic elections. The National representatives at the Ninth National Assembly elected on June 8, 1986, by "absolute majority" as "a triumph of socialist democracy" (according to the then prevailing effusive propaganda style) stoically withstood the pressure of the street and sensibly adopted the agreements reached at the national roundtable talks. They will leave, most of them forever, the building of parliament in the centre of Sofia. The elections on June 10, 1990, will show who will take their seats.

The Ninth National Assembly was elected and engaged in things that the previous eight National Assemblies had to deal with in the last 45 years: unanimously adopting the political and economic decisions of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] leadership. In the 1986-1989 period, at the idea of Todor Zhivkov who was the sole ruler of the Communist Party and the country, unjustified structural and personal changes were being constantly made. Not even once did the government report to the national representatives, as it was actually the case with the previous National Assembly. Amendments to laws were approved and decrees of the State Council were adopted which increased the chaos of normative acts and aggravated the political and economic crisis. All this was advertised by the monocracy as "a contribution to the socialist self-management and consistent democracy."

When Todor Zhivkov was ousted in November last year, the same National Assembly found itself in a very unusual and, to some extent, awkward situation. The hundreds-of-thousands-people strong demonstrations, the emergence of an opposition, the formation of many new political parties and other organizations and, first of all, the agreement for conducting roundtable talks were an appeal for common sense and constructiveness. Most of the national representatives, although closely related to the previous regime, agreed that it was necessary to make a compromise.

After November 10, 1989, six sessions were convened, which shows an unprecedented dynamism in the practice of the National Assembly. A parliamentary-cum-public commission was set up to investigate the crimes committed by the previous regime. The constitutional guarantees of the leading role of the BCP were revoked. Many people were rehabilitated and amnesty laws were adopted. A declaration on the ethnic problem was adopted as an attempt to overcome the ethnic crisis and later on—the Bulgarian Citizens Names Act, which is the first of its kind. The National Assembly approved the anti- crisis programme of the government and created the prerequisites for encouraging economic enterprise and denationalizing the economy.

In the last five months the political life unfolded in unusual conditions and a heated political atmosphere. Being aware of the undemocratic way it was elected in 1986, the National Assembly (with some exceptions) listened to the proposals made by the participants in the national roundtable talks. So far at least the objective has been achieved—Bulgaria made her peaceful start along the path to democracy. And the future? As to the future, the Bulgarian people will have its say.

Agreement on Grand National Assembly

AU0304170090 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 31 Mar 90 pp 1,3

["Agreement on the Basic Ideas and Principles of the Draft Law on the Election of the Grand National Assembly"—adopted at national roundtable talks in Sofia on 30 March]

[Text] The participants in the national roundtable reached an agreement on the basic ideas and principles of the draft law on the election of the Grand National Assembly.

The sides participating in the roundtable talks stress the special importance of this Election Law for holding democratic and free elections for the Grand National Assembly that will decisively influence the development of the democratic process in our country. On the basis of this understanding and in accordance with the roundtable agreement on the political system, the national roundtable participants agreed to propose to the National Assembly that the following basic principles should be included in the future Election Law:

1. The elections for the Grand National Assembly will be held in accordance with the principles of the general, equal, and direct election law based on secret ballot.

2. The elections will be held according to a mixed system under which:

—Two hundred deputy seats will be occupied through direct elections of candidates in single-mandate election districts on the majority principle and on the basis of a more than half of the real votes' majority;

—Two hundred deputy seats will be occupied on the basis of the proportional principles through elections in multi-mandated election districts on a party ticket basis.

—Every voter will be entitled to two votes: The first vote will apply to the candidate in a single-mandate election district, and the second vote to election on the basis of the party ticket.

3. The roundtable participants accept the procedure proposed in the draft law in connection with preparing the election lists.

For the purpose of preventing manipulations of the permits authorizing citizens to vote in places other than those of their residence, it is proposed that such permits should be issued on a limited basis. The polling station election commissions are expected to prepare a separate list for voters according to this procedure by adding the permits for those who have already voted in other places to the list.

The district election commissions will exercise special control over the issue of permits for voting in other places.

The municipal people's councils will prepare a list of people who have been provided with permits authorizing them to vote in places other than those of their residence.

4. The head of state will determine the election districts and approve the election documents after consultations with the Central Election Commission no later than 55 days prior to election day.

The Council of Ministers will provide access to the data on the establishment of election districts for political parties and other political organizations that are participating in the elections.

The multi-mandate election districts will be established on the basis of the former administrative okrugs.

5. The organization of the elections and their proceedings will be implemented through election commissions expected to include legal experts and other citizens with the appropriate educational level, nonparty people, and an equal number of representatives from political parties.

The Central Election Commission will be appointed by the chairman (president) of the republic, after consultations with the party leaderships, no later than two months prior to election day.

The district election commissions will be appointed after consultations with the relevant political party leaders by the executive committees of the relevant oblast people's council, while the polling station commissions' members will be appointed by the relevant municipal people's councils.

The requirement that the commissions appointed according to the aforementioned procedures should register with the courts of justice will be abolished since this procedure only additionally complicates the progress of work.

6. The Central Election Commission is in charge of the following tasks:

a) It registers the preelection coalitions and the colors (tsvetovete) of parties and coalitions.

b) It deals with complaints against illegal acts and actions of the district election commissions, and is expected to adopt final decisions on such matters.

c) It announces the nationwide election results.

d) It implements the methods of leadership and control related to the district election commissions.

The decisions of the Central Election Commissions can be appealed by submitting the appeal to the Supreme Court of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

7. The district election commissions are in charge of the following tasks:

a) They organize the election in their respective election district.

b) They register individual candidates and party tickets.

c) They implement methodical leadership and control over the polling station commissions.

The decisions of the district election commission can be appealed by submitting the appeal to the Central Election Commission.

8. The following bodies are entitled to propose candidates in single-mandate election districts:

a) Leaderships of political parties and of party coalitions.

b) A group of voters composed of at least 500 citizens.

9. Each candidate can be registered in only one single-mandate election district and is entitled to run on a one-party ticket only.

10. Parties that form preelection coalitions run on a joint ticket in the individual election districts. In such cases they are not entitled to run on independent tickets.

11. The party leaderships form party tickets for the elections by determining the order of precedence in listing their candidates.

12. The registration of candidates and party tickets will be completed no later than 30 days prior to the elections.

13. Each candidate is entitled to no more than 10 representatives, who assist him in the election campaign and represent his interests in his contacts with state offices, public institutions, and voters, and in his relations with the Central Election Commission and the other election commissions. In the meetings of election commissions, the representatives participate with a consulting vote and are entitled to enter objections in the protocols of the election commissions.

14. The Law on the Election of the Grand National Assembly will provide the necessary legal prerequisites for guaranteeing free political agitation among citizens for parties, candidates, and their representatives, by observing the following rules:

—Equal access for all candidates and parties to the sources of information required for the election campaign;

—Opportunities for the preparation and use of propaganda material;

—Sociological opinion polls will not be admitted later than eight days prior to the elections; agitation material and propaganda leaflets will not be distributed later than 24 hours prior to election day, and are banned on election day.

—Broad glasnost will be given to the sources of financing election campaign activities.

—Propaganda material that is not in conformity with the established rules is banned and subject to the sanction of destruction;

15. Financial support for candidates provided by foreign states, parties, physical persons, and legal bodies from abroad will be banned. Bulgarian citizens will be entitled to make individual contributions amounting to 100 leva, while legal bodies are entitled to make contributions amounting to 2,000 leva for the election campaign. The total amount of financial support for the election campaign of a candidate will not exceed 20,000 leva.

The candidates are entitled to use the premises and financial resources of the parties whose members they are.

16. Soldiers who are on regular military service in the Bulgarian People's Army ranks will vote in the polling stations of the respective inhabited settlements where they are stationed. Unit commanders, in cooperation with the local polling station commissions, are in charge of preparing lists and schedules for the soldiers who are expected to vote.

17. It is proposed that the minister of national defense, in cooperation with the Central Election Commission should prepare and publish instructions for the procedure according to which the election campaign and the casting of votes should be organized in the Army. These procedures should provide equal conditions for making the soldiers familiar with the programs of the respective parties and their candidates.

18. Bulgarian citizens who permanently reside abroad will be registered in the voters' lists if they express the personal wish to participate in the elections, no later than one week prior to the elections. The fact that they have voted is marked in their foreign travel passports.

19. Bulgarian citizens who return to the country on election day after having spent two months abroad, will be canceled from the lists of voters.

20. The Central Election Commission, in cooperation with the minister of foreign affairs, will prepare and publish instructions related to the procedure according to which Bulgarian citizens living abroad will be entitled to participate in the elections. The opportunity for voting by mail should be discussed.

21. Party representatives, candidate representatives, journalists, and guests are entitled to attend elections at polling stations premises.

22. Every party or election coalition will participate in the elections with a specific color. Candidates from

single-mandate districts nominated by groups of voters will select white as their color.

23. Representatives of the parties, the candidates, their representatives, journalists, and guests are entitled to attend the procedures of establishing election results.

Empty envelopes will be considered invalid.

Vote counting will proceed separately for each ticket and each candidate.

24. The candidate who has obtained more than half of the actual votes cast in an election district, provided that more than half of the voters included in the voters' lists have voted, will be considered as being elected as National Assembly deputy in a single-mandate district.

If less than half of the voters have participated in the elections, or none of the candidates has been elected, new elections will be held within one week. If more than two candidates were registered in an election district and none of them have been elected, the two candidates who have obtained the greatest number of votes in the first round will be proposed for the second round. The candidate who obtains the greatest number of votes will be considered the winner.

25. All real votes cast in the election district for party tickets will be considered as the basis of distributing seats, according to the proportional election system. The parties that have obtained a minimum of four percent of the real votes in all election districts are entitled to participate in the distribution of seats.

Every party ticket obtains seats in accordance with the real votes cast in its favor. The seats will be occupied by candidates of the parties in conformity with the order of precedence according to which they are listed on the party ticket.

26. All complaints about illegal actions committed by state offices, officials, parties, and citizens in connection with the elections that justify the assumption that the will of the voters has been distorted will be addressed to the Grand National Assembly within no less than two weeks after the announcement of the election results.

The Grand National Assembly mandate commission will examine the complaints and report on its conclusions from them.

27. The newly elected National Assembly deputies will report on the sources of their financing and on their expenditures during the election campaign within no less than two months after the elections.

28. The practice of withdrawing [otzovavane] will be abolished after the free deputy's mandate has been accepted.

29. The present agreement understands the concept of parties as political parties, organizations, and movements that, according to the Law on Political Parties, are participating in the elections with their candidates.

30. Election coalitions will be established only by the parties, organizations, and movements mentioned in the aforementioned text.

Party coalitions for the elections will register with the Central Election Commission within the period envisioned for the nomination of candidates.

31. A national campaign will be organized for publicizing the new election system and the procedures of elections among voters.

The roundtable will coordinate a separate agreement related to the guarantees of holding free and honest elections, the establishment of an independent national organization in charge of exercising public control over the freedom of elections and a statute on its representatives, as well as on the representatives of international organizations and foreign states.

Agreement on Political Parties Law

AU0304140490 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 31 Mar 90 pp 1,3

["Agreement on the Basic Ideas and Principles of the Draft Law on Political Parties"—adopted at the national roundtable talks in Sofia on 30 March]

[Text] The participants in the national roundtable reached an agreement on the basic ideas and principles of the draft law on political parties that is expected to be discussed and adopted at the forthcoming National Assembly session. The common conviction is that the future law should guarantee prerequisites for the development and consolidation of political pluralism in our country.

In accordance with the agreement on the political system, the participants in the roundtable talks agreed on the following basic principles that will be reflected in the law on political parties:

1. The citizens' constitutional right of freely joining political parties will be guaranteed. Membership, or nonmembership in a given party and the interruption of membership will not be a reason for either special privileges, or discrimination related to the citizens' rights.

2. Political parties will be inscribed in a special register with the Sofia City Court of Justice, according to a simplified procedure. A seven-day deadline will be envisioned for the publication of the decision on the registration of a given political party in DURZHAVEN VESTNIK.

3. The political parties will exercise their activities within the framework of the country's Constitution and laws, and in accordance with their own statutes and programmatic goals.

4. Equal rights of participating in political life will be guaranteed for all parties.

—The state will cooperate in providing the parties with premises and other facilities that are required for their activities under equal conditions and according to the same procedures.

—Every party is entitled to its own printed publications and is authorized to publish.

—The parties are entitled to have free access to the state-owned mass media on questions related to their activities.

5. For the purpose of guaranteeing a peaceful development of the democratic process, the law will provide for banning political parties for the the following reasons:

—Parties whose activities are aimed at violating the country's constitutional order, at violating its sovereigny and territorial integrity, at fanning racial, nationality, and ethnic, or religious enmity, and at violations of civil rights will be banned.

—The ban applies to parties that are trying to achieve their goals through violence, or by any other illegal methods.

—The ban applies to the establishment of parties based on ethnic, or religious principles.

—The ban applies to militarized or underground party formations.

—The ban applies to the establishment of children's and youth organizations attached to political parties enrolling children under the age of

—The ban applies to the parties' interference in the activities of state offices and institutions, the Army, the militia, security forces, economic organizations, the state-owned mass media, health protection, creative unions, religious organizations, and scientific and educational institutions.

—The ban applies to the establishment of the parties' organizational structures in workplaces.

—The ban applies to the organized political parties' activities in workplaces and to activities of other organizations and movements—such as trade unions, social movements, societies, and others—in workplaces. Rallies, demonstrations, party meetings, and all other forms of political agitation in support of political parties or election candidates are defined as political activities.

The act of informing the conscripts serving in the Army on the election platforms of candidates for the National Assembly elections and the procedure under which they will be entitled to vote will be determined in the National Assembly Election Law, while equal conditions and an established procedure under the control of the election commissions will be provided.

6. The law on political parties will settle the question of the sources of income and the means for the parties' financial support, the possibilities of financing them from the state budget, and the implementation of economic activities related to their goals deetermined by their statutes. The law will provide conditions and settle the procedure for obtaining resources from the state budget to cover the election expenditures.

7. The financing of political parties by foreign states through their bodies, institutions, and organizations in any forms or circumstances whatsoever will be banned. Political parties are not entitled to any financial resources and other sources of income provided by foreign organizations with economic or other goals, and the same applies to anonymous sources of income. The opportunity will be provided for foreign citizens to make individual or collective donations for the benefit of Bulgarian political parties amounting to a maximum of $500 dollars in the case of individual donations and up to $2,000 in the case of collective donations.

Political parties are not entitled to financial resources from state organs and institutions, or from economic enterprises.

Financial resources obtained through the banned methods will be confiscated for the state.

As a provisional measure, the additional regulations of the law will provide the opportunity for political parties to accept donations from foreign organizations on a nonprofit basis, in the form of technical equipment and materials, or in the form of the equivalent amount required for their specific activities within the limit of one year from the date of the law's enactment. If the donations are provided in the form of financial resources, they will be transferred according to the effective currency account to the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank in the name of the respective party.

The control over the legality of obtaining sources of income and related to the management of the parties' property will be exercised by a permanently acting parliamentary-public body attached to the National Assembly. The parties are expected to submit an annual report, at the end of March, to the experts' commission on the amount and sources of their income and on their expenditures during the period under review, which will be published by DURZHAVEN VESTNIK. This accountability report will be submitted also no later than two weeks before the day of the National Assembly elections.

Special alleviations will be provided for the parties related to taxes on their property.

The newly elected National Assembly is entitled to revise the regulations related to regulations on the financing of political parties.

8. The political parties are entitled to form other organizations and movements within the framework of the Constitution and the laws. When organizations and movements that are not parties express the intention of participating in National Assembly elections and in other election bodies with their own candidates, or to participate in election coalitions for National Assembly elections, they will register according to the rules envisioned for political parties and in accordance with the regulations applying to the law on political parties. Public organizations and movements are not entitled to be collective members of political parties.

As to other organizations and movements that are pursuing political goals expressly manifested in their statutes and programs, the bans and requirements envisioned under items five and seven and the rights provided in item four of the present agreement will be applied to them.

9. Conditions and procedures for eliminating political parties, including the possibilty of their disbanding by the Supreme Court in case their activities should apply to the bans specified in the agreement will be envisioned.

Military Prosecutor Investigates Lovech Camp

AU0304191590 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 27 Mar 90 p 1

[Text] On 22 March 1990, the Armed Forces Prosecutor's Office began a preliminary investigation into mass media reports on crimes committed during the 1969-62 period in the camps near Lovech and in the village of Skravena, Sofia Oblast.

The examination is being conducted by military prosecutors.

The public will be informed in a timely way on the investigation's progress and the immediate measures adopted, the announcement of the Armed Forces Prosecutor's Office states.

Citizens who possess knowledge of these events are requested to give their addresses to the Armed Forces Prosecutor's Office in Sofia in order that they can be questioned as witnesses.

Commission Investigates Labor Camp 'Crimes'

AU0304072390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2100 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] The second session of the special commission investigating the crimes and abuses committed in the camps near Lovech, Skravena, and others was held today.

The commission was familiarized with part of the selected material and established specific facts and circumstances, also on the basis of evidence provided by witnesses who voluntarily came to testify before the commission.

According to the facts collected so far, which are expected to be handed over to the investigating authorities and publicized through the mass media, death certificates were found for only 126 persons among 147 deceased inmates.

The list of these persons has been submitted to BTA. A total of 1,222 people, both men and women, passed through Lovech and Skravena camps in the period from 1959 to 1962.

The commission was also acquainted with facts submitted by the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Archives based on the report of a commission headed by Boris (?Slvechev) investigating the regime of the labor group near Lovech.

The information was submitted to BTA.

It was established that labor-educational communal centers for criminals and for individuals defined as politically dangerous existed on the islands between the city of Svishtov and the village of Belene, and in other places all over the country, such as the Sveti Vrach Camp situated near the town of Sandanski; a camp near the town of Stanke Dimitrov; a camp near the Aleksandur Stamboliyski water reservoir, which was called Rositsa at that time; a camp at the (Kotsiyan) mine near Pernik; a camp in Bogdanovdol Village; one in Nikolaevo Village, in the Kazunluk area; one in the Nozharevo Village, Silistra area; another one in Boshulya Village, Pazardzhik area; a women's camp near the Peter and Paul monastery near the town of Lyaskovets; a camp in (?Gosna) Village; and in other places.

The investigation to establish the existence of other such labor camps continues.

Further on Investigation

AU0304170790 Sofia BTA in English 1518 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—In the 1959-1962 period 1,222 men and women passed through the death camps at Lovech and Skravena, Bulgaria. The information gathered so far evidences the death of 147 people. No death certificates have been found for 21 of them. Most often the certificates mention the following causes of death: cardio-vascular diseases, diseases of the respiratory system, renal disorders, heat apoplexy, influenza.

It was pointed out at yesterday's [2 April] session of the special commission, set up to help along the investigation of the crimes and abuses in the camps at Lovech, Skravena and in other places, that the possibility to check the authenticity of the facts stated in the protocols and the certificates is limited. The commission expressed the opinion that in some cases the cruel treatment of the inmates aggravated clinical diseases and caused death. In other cases the statements made in the respective protocols were found to be not true; they were just a cover for the real cause of death. The deceased had not been subjected to a post-mortem examination.

The special commission has established that in 1955 the State Gazette published decrees on setting up labour "communities" or forced labour camps for criminals and politically dangerous persons. The implementation of the decrees was assigned to the minister of the interior. With another decree published in 1949 the islands in the area between the town of Svishtov and the village of Belene (both situated on the Danube) were defined as the premises of a labour camp.

Similar labour camps were set up in different places, at a different time, and they operated for different periods of time: "Sveti Vrach" at the town of Sandanski (southwest Bulgaria), the camp at Stanke Dimitrov (western Bulgaria), the Kutsian mine at the town of Pernik (western Bulgaria) and many others. Gathering information about the existence of other camps is going on.

The special commission was informed about the work of another commission headed by Boris Velchev, then member of the former Politburo and secretary of the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party], which in 1962 had to make a checkup at the Lovech Forced Labour Camp. It is said in the report made out by the commission that the camp at Lovech was set up immediately after closing the labour camps in the country in 1959. There is no written decision about it, but the leadership of the Ministry of the Interior was assigned the task of setting up such a camp. The regime of the camp was published as late as in February 1962, in other words immediately after the CC of the BCP got reports about the situation there.

The commission appointed in the 1960's established that the inmates of the camp were subjected to a particularly severe regime. They had to toil strenuously and no working hours were fixed; for example, in a day an inmate had to crush and transport 15 trams or 11 cubic metres of stone. At that production quotas constantly increased.

Another characteristic of the severe regime was physical violence. On his arrival every newcomer was beaten "to get acclimatized." Then the beating went on unceasingly on various occasions, and the treatment of those who tried to run away was particularly cruel. Until the middle of 1961 the inmates were beaten by the employees of the Ministry of the Interior, including the manager of the camp, Major Gogov. Later these functions were assigned to the unit and brigade leaders who were interned themselves and who carried out their task with particular sadism.

There was not even a hint of any hygiene.

Boris Velchev's commission saw in the camp an abuse of lawfulness and socialist ethics. In its report the commission pointed out that the camp officials did not deny that possibly the beating had sped up the death of some inmates. The commission itself admitted that in some individual cases the main cause of death was the beating.

The same commission proposed to close the camps at Lovech and Skravena, stating that their existence was unjustified from any point of view whatsoever. The provision was made that it was necessary to seek legal grounds for sentencing and imprisoning the criminals considered especially dangerous for society, who probably were a small part of the interned. "We think that this evaluation should be made by a commission of the respective departments and public organizations under the direct supervision of the Administrative Bodies Department of the CC of the BCP," it is said in the decision of the commission headed by Boris Velchev.

With regard to the personal responsibility of those directly involved in setting up the camps, the commission appointed in the sixties stated that obviously they were guided by the principle that any means of compulsion and isolation were justified when "the dregs of society," as the inmates were called, were concerned.

At its yesterday's session the special commission was acquainted with a protocol of a session held by the Politburo of the CC of the BCP in April 1962, on the agenda of which were matters related to the inspection carried at the Lovech Forced Labour Camp. The decision made at that time condemns the regime of the camp as vicious and incompatible with the socialists ethics and law. The labour camps at Lovech and Skravena were closed. The party bodies, the bodies of the Ministry of the Interior and the people's councils were instructed to take measures to appoint the former inmates of the camps to suitable work and to make efforts for their reforming.

The former leadership of the Ministry of the Interior was reproached for not having taken all necessary measures for promptly cutting short the arbitrary acts at the labour camp. Mircho Spasov, then deputy minister of the interior; Petur Gogov and Tsvyatko Goranov, officials of the Ministry of the Interior at the forced labour camp; Nikola Gazdov, former employee of the State Security Department, and Kiril Nikolov, then head of the county department of the Ministry of the Interior, were reprimanded and the censure was entered in their party record. The punishment was imposed for their having made serious political mistakes while working at the Lovech Labour Camp. The Chief Prosecutor's Office was also notified.

Opposition Holds Rally in Stara Zagora

AU3103201590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1930 GMT 31 Mar 90

[Text] Today the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] held an election rally in Stara Zagora under the motto: justice, democracy, and security. The speakers included Mikhail Nedelchev, Elka Konstantinova, Aleksandur Yordanov, Asen Davidov, Yoncho Papazov, Atanas Atanasov, Ivaylo Trifonov, and other representatives of the opposition parties and organizations.

The people at the rally greeted with chanting the speech of Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev. In Dr. Zhelev's view, at present all the international winds are blowing in support of our democracy, and for the first time in our history not a single international force stands against Bulgaria.

A resolution was adopted at the rally that sharply criticizes the crimes committed in the camp near Lovech, and insists that the National Assembly should publish all information about them without delay.

Lilov Answers Rally Participants' Questions

AU0204122790 Sofia DEMOKRATSIYA in Bulgarian 21 Mar 90 p 2

[Report by special correspondent Georgi Bashyanov on answers given by Aleksandur Lilov, Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) Supreme Council chairman, to questions by participants at a BCP rally in Plovdiv; date not given: "Mr. Lilov Is Not Afraid of Anything—Questions

and Answers From Aleksandur Lilov's Meeting With 5,000 Representatives of the Local BCP Aktiv in Plovdiv"]

[Text] [Bashyanov] Foreign delegations are visiting us, but they also meet opposition members. Zhelyu Zhelev is making statements to foreigners, expressing his confidence that he is going to win the elections. What is your opinion on this?

[Lilov] We will see in a few months. Authoritative opinion polls indicate that Zhelyu Zhelev's popularity is decreasing.

[Bashyanov] Will you agree with the idea of holding elections for the Grand National Assembly?

[Lilov] No, we will not agree. The opposition may wish to postpone the elections, but it cannot postpone the problems.

[Bashyanov] Why do you permit accusations against us to be made at the roundtable?

[Lilov] We are not supposed to prevent people from making accusations at the roundtable. This is democracy: not to forbid accusations, but to contest them.

[Bashyanov] Will Marxism be banned from higher educational institutions?

[Lilov] According to our view, Marxism should be taught, but only on a high level. This task should be entrusted to students who are Communists.

[Bashyanov] Why do you not respond to insults against the party?

[Lilov] We should perhaps tolerate this criticism.

[Bashyanov] Zhelyu Zhelev's philosophy is fascism, conservatism, and capitalism. Why is he not unmasked?

[Lilov] Comrades, you are overestimating Zhelyu Zhelev's role.

[Bashyanov] Who is telling the truth about the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP]—the BCP leaders, or the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] leaders?

[Lilov] I think that the BCP leaders are telling the truth.

[Bashyanov] Would you comment on Fidel Castro's statement about socialism in Eastn Europe?

[Lilov] I kindly request you to refrain from asking me to comment on this subject. I like Fidel Castro.

[Bashyanov] Why is the circulation of RABOTNICHESKO DELO decreasing, while DEMOKRATSIYA announces that it will not restrict its subscriptions?

[Lilov] These are the paradoxical phenomena of democracy.

[Bashyanov] The opposition is taking advantage of the roundtable to cause political agitation....

[Lilov] That is true. The BCP, on the other hand, tries to use the roundtable to solve crucial problems.

[Bashyanov] Why have we been unable to resolve the agricultural problem so far, and instead wait for the opposition to do so?

[Lilov] This a point on which we accept criticism.

[Bashyanov] Are you not worried about the fact that those who are proclaiming slogans of democracy are far from being democratic?

[Lilov] Yes, this is true. The opposition is far from being democratic.

[Bashyanov] Can you force the opposition to behave in a more civilized manner?

[Lilov] I cannot make our opposition more civilized. I hope that history will accomplish that task.

[Bashyanov] What are you afraid of that causes you to make so many concessions?

[Lilov] I am not afraid of anything.

Lilov Speaks at Stara Zagora Rally

AU0304085190 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 30 Mar 90 p 1

[Vanyo Stoilov report: "Lilov Proposes Moratorium on Hatred and Provocations"]

[Text] Stara Zagora, 29 March—"It would be beneficial if the parties, and first of all, the political leaders, were to declare a moratorium on hatred and provocations," Aleksandur Lilov, Supreme Council chairman of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP], said at a rally in front of the Municipal People's Council.

When the guest began to speak, the rain—so badly needed in Thrace—began to fall. All the participants in the rally viewed this as a symbol of something beautiful and an indication that everything will flow as smoothly as water in the forthcoming elections.

The speaker said that more than ever before Bulgaria needs a peaceful transition toward a democratic society. The changes must take place in an atmosphere of civic peace and stability. Therefore, he said, we cannot be calm while party intrigues develop in certain circles. The BCP insists on secure guarantees that a really peaceful transition toward democracy will take place in our country. According to some of our opponents, our party threatens the public with precisely the opposite thing. However, we have drawn conclusions from the past and are honestly and boldly heading along the new road. We need a national consensus. Nobody benefits from a cold and political war. The struggle of ideas must be conducted through the language of democracy.

Prudence, calm, and security—this is what the participants in the rally demanded. Therefore they raised high the slogans "Yes to dialogue, no to hatred!", and "Struggle of ideas not political wrestling." Many carried in their hands the red party flag, but the number of national flags was greater. The Stara Zagora Communists place the interests of the country above the party interests.

Only once was a voice of categorical disapproval resounded in the square. This happened when poet Stoycho Stoychev reminded the participants that Dr. Konstantin Trenchev, himself a citizen of Stara Zagora, promised through the press that he will hand over the enterprises to Western capitalists, while the superfluous workers will be sent to Third World countries.

On the other hand, the participants greeted with prolonged and enthusiastic applause Aleksandur Lilov's statement that in the forthcoming elections the BCP will struggle to send to parliament honest and competent people who are capable of resolving Bulgaria's difficult problems.

After the rally BCP Supreme Council Chairman Aleksandur Lilov had a meeting with the party aktiv of the former Stara Zagora Okrug.

Serbezov on BCP Referendum on Party's Name

AU0304191690 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 27 Mar 90 p 2

[Report on interview with Rumen Serbezov, the Bulgarian Communist Party's Supreme Council secretary, by Angel Bonev in Sofia; date not given: "We Are Morally and Politically Justified To Be Called the Bulgarian Socialist Party"]

[Text] The referendum on the new name of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] has ended, and the preliminary results show that the majority of the Communists who took part support the BCP Supreme Council's proposal to name it the Bulgarian Socialist Party. A considerable number of RABOTNICHESKO DELO readers have asked: What are the grounds for the BCP to bear such a name after the mass media had announced even before the referendum that an organization with this name already exists.

I put this question, which was asked, among others, by Boyan Pamukov of Block 53, Lenin Apartment Complex, Sofia, to BCP Supreme Council Secretary Rumen Serbezov. This was his reply:

[Serbezov] Our party has changed its name many times in its history. It was founded and began its activity as the Social Democratic Party, but called itself communist during a certain period of its history. We see our moral justification to bear the name Socialist Party in the fact that our party has always been inspired in its work by the socialist idea and by everything permanent and valuable that has been created by the socialist movement throughout the world.

[Bonev] The proposal to rename the BCP the Bulgarian Socialist Party was submitted for concrete discussion long before the all-party referendum.

[Serbezov] Yes, the proposal was made much earlier. Immediately after 10 November last year, many party organizations formed the view that the BCP should change its name, especially when the ideological tendencies emerged. Various suggestions were made for the name, such as the Party of Democratic Socialism in Bulgaria (Communists), Communist Party for Democratic Socialism, Bulgarian Socialist Party, and so on.

Some of these suggestions by the party members were reflected in the political declaration—the Manifest for Democratic Socialism in Bulgaria. This document, as is well known, was approved by the delegates of the 14th Extraordinary BCP Congress. It was this congress that decided to conduct a party referendum on the BCP's name.

Accordingly, we may assert that a political claim to the party's new name was made even prior to the appearance of reports on the formation of another party with the same name.

[Bonev] Many readers, such as Veneta Bozhilova of 24, Emil Markov Street, Sofia, ask the question: Would it not be better for the party's new name "to come into effect" after the elections?

[Serbezov] After the majority of the party members have clearly voiced their support for the BCP's new name in the referendum, it would be undemocratic to wait for the elections, and only then allow the new name "to come into effect." Such a decision would be tantamount to artificially delaying an issue that had already been decided.

Lilov on BCP's New Name

AU0304194890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Elena Shtereva report]

[Text] [Announcer] This evening an all-city rally was held in 9th September Square in Sofia. The rally was convened by the Supreme Party Council of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] and the Sofia municipal committees of the BCP, which beginning today has adopted the name of the Bulgarian Socialist Party. Here is an on-the-spot dispatch from our reporter Elena Shtereva.

[Shtereva] The thousands of people who gathered in the square were greeted by the Sofia City brass band, a song and dance group, and performances by folk song choirs and folk dance groups.

The rally was opened by Stefan Prodev, editor in chief of RABOTNICHESKO DELO, which starting on 4 April will appear with a new masthead. Stefan Prodev stated that this evening the party enters history with a new name: the Bulgarian Socialist Party. However, the

change of name does not mean a change of ideas, he said. The party raises on high the banner of humanitarianism, democracy, and the civic society, he stated.

After Stefan Prodev's speech, Dobri Dzhurov announces the results of the all-party referendum on changing the name of the BCP. He said that 81 percent of the total party membership took part in the referendum. Of those who participated, 87 percent agreed to the change in the party's name, which represents almost 64 percent of all the Communists; votes against were cast by 12 percent of the participants, or nine percent of the total membership, producing a large majority in support of the name Bulgarian Socialist Party.

After Dobri Dzhurov spoke, the platform was given to Aleksandur Lilov, Presidium chairman of the Supreme Party Council. Here are some points from this speech:

[Begin Lilov recording] Dear comrades: This is truly a historic day for the Bulgarian Communist Party. From today, it takes the name of the Bulgarian Socialist Party. The bright, purified, and really visible socialist idea will appear on the party banner and on all the symbols of our party. In the far distant future, the ideal for a just society, the ideas of the Communist Manifesto will, of course, again entice us. However, today we become and are a party of socialism with a goal that is fully realistic and attainable, a party of democratic socialism.

We are 100 years old, a party with unchanging faith in the people, a party with good deeds, but also with tragic errors and, during the recent decades, with profound distortions of the party and society. We must neither point out only what is good, nor agree with the obloquy and nihilism. We leave behind us the delusions, the mistakes, the degradation, the terrible pages of violations of the law and evil deeds, for all of which we must bear harsh and pitiless responsibility. We know what we have to renounce, and what we must never again repeat. [end recording]

[Shtereva] The platform was then given to other speakers, among whom was Academician Kiril Vasilev. He expressed the view of the Radical Delegates Club. We accept with full understanding the party's new name, because it corresponds to the party's goal, namely the construction of democratic socialism, Academician Kiril Vasilev stated.

Further on New Name

AU0304203090 Sofia BTA in English
1910 GMT 3 Apr 90

["BCP Becomes Bulgarian Socialist Party"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—The formation of a Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) was announced at a major rally here today by Mr. Stefan Prodev, editor-in-chief of the DUMA daily (formerly RABOTNICHESKO DELO).

General Dobri Dzhurov, member of the BSP Supreme Council and head of the commission on the inner party referendum, told thousands of people attending the rally in downtown Sofia that 726,000, or 81 per cent of the 983,000 card-holding party members, had voted in the referendum on the party's name. About 87 per cent of those who voted, or 64 per cent of all party members, declared itself in favour of the BCP changing its name. As few as 12.66 per cent of the participants in the referendum wanted the old name to be kept.

The party leader Mr. Aleksandur Lilov told the rally that the BSP is breaking with the mistakes, the abuses and the crimes of the past. "We want radical reforms in everything, including the party. We know for sure what we can give up and what should never be repeated," the speaker said.

Mr. Lilov said that the struggle for change should be the "BSP's political watchword." He called for a radical and speedy economic reform but opposed a "shock therapy" and the ensuing mass unemployment and inflation. The Socialists leader indicated that "certain right-wing forces are trying to push the country towards a new totalitarianism" and stressed that the BSP declares itself in favour of a bloodless and civilised transition to a democratic society.

The BSP chief said that his party has a clear-cut programme and competent cadres and can take the country out of the crisis and achieve the ends of a democratic and prosperous state with guaranteed human rights and freedoms and social justice "not in an indefinite future but today and tomorrow." He called on the electorate to vote for the BSP "if they want change, security and well-being and not violence." His remarks were punctuated by chants of "BSP" and "victory".

Supreme Council Adopts Name

AU0304204390 Sofia BTA in English
2008 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—At its meeting today, the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Communist Party resolved to rename the party Bulgarian Socialist Party, effective immediately, on the strength of an 86.71 per cent majority vote in favour of the change at an inner party referendum.

At the same meeting, the Supreme Party Council relieved Mr. Petur Mladenov of his responsibilities as member of the BSP Supreme Council and its Presidium due to his election as president of the country and at his request. According to the Constitution, the presidency is a nonpartisan institution.

Mr. Stanko Todorov and Mr. Lyuben Gotsev were elected members of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party by secret ballot.

Ecoglasnost To Remain 'Opposition' Movement

AU0104201390 Sofia BTA in English 1731 GMT 1 Apr 90

["'Ecoglasnost': Always in the Opposition"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 1 (BTA)—The "Ecoglasnost" movement, one of the first social movements to oppose totalitarian regime in Bulgaria, will always remain in the opposition.

This was stated by journalist Georgi Avramov, chief secretary of "Ecoglasnost" after the first national meeting, which declared the movement an all-nation one closed here today.

A firm civil claim was lodged at the meeting, against the culprits for the ecological genocide towards the Bulgarian people during and after the Chernobyl disaster. There is a conviction in this country that the then BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] and state leadership is to blame for it.

"Ecoglasnost" has now over 50 clubs and organizations throughout the country and is one of the founders of the Union of the Democratic Forces (SDS). "We will participate in the free elections in June. But as we are a movement in which there are representatives from all kinds of parties, we will always remain in the opposition," Avramov said.

In relation with the elections "Ecoglasnost" will set up a citizens' club, which will raise nominations of independent candidates with strongly expressed ecological platform where there are not clearly defined boundaries between power and the opposition.

Some of the members of "Ecoglasnost" oppose the movement participation in the SDS, but they are a minority.

The movement program plans vigilance and enterprising in the control of the investment policy of the ruling parties, whichever they may be. "Ecoglasnost" warns that a control is necessary so as not to allow in future, either, to use environment polluting technologies, under the form of assistance from the developed countries.

But priority task of "Ecoglasnost" still remains to be "the socio-ecological self-protection of the population, the control over the management resolutions, on which the people's health and the state of their living environment depends". "Ecoglasnost" plans the establishment of "ecological police", the seeking of alternative energy sources, the speedier development of the ecological education and science.

A decision was taken at the meeting to establish an ecological post at the radio and television, whose objective will be to keep vigilant social opinion about cases of environment pollution.

Once again, as it has become a custom in the last few months, "Ecoglasnost" produced information about the disastrous ecological situation in Sofia, near the city of Plovdiv and at a number of other places in the country.

It was decided to mark by protest demonstrations April 26, the day of the fourth anniversary of Chernobyl.

Government Takes Measures for Privatization

AU3103203190 Sofia BTA in English 1904 GMT 31 Mar 90

["Government Goes to Privatization"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 31 (BTA)—Trade, public catering and services will be the first sphere in which there will be a privatization of projects for speedier and better perceptible transition to market economy.

The draft decree, the first document for sale of state property, was discussed today by the Council of Ministers. The regulatory statute proposed by the Minister of Trade and Services Ekaterina Marinova determines the order and way of privatization. This will be done by turning of state and social companies into joint stock ones and part of the shares will be placed on sale to physical persons, companies and citizens and cooperative associations of citizens by sale and granting on lease. The owners, the municipal councils and the state, hold auctions for the sale and granting on lease. No restrictions are envisaged regarding the projects which will be put on auction and all types of ownership will be equally treated, i.e. the leading things are to be the will of the owner-seller and the purchaser's money.

The issue was urgently raised of the return of the state cooperative property to the cooperatives and the rapid building of goods and vegetable markets, as well as of how will the money received from the privatized property be used.

The proposed model for development of tourism as a priority branch in the national economy received the approval of most of the speakers and was determined to be an extremely modern development for the transition towards a market economy in tourism.

It was proposed that privatization in this sphere be handled mainly through its transition to a joint-stock one and that the joint-stock companies will include besides state funds, also the means of Bulgarian and foreign juridical and physical persons. Other types are the granting on lease, rents, franchising, sale of individual projects as well as part of the state joint-stock participation.

Besides the model adoption the draft proposed that the Bulgarian Association for Tourism and Rest be closed down and a committee for tourism be established.

A draft for decree on solving some of the specific problems in the sphere of construction, town planning and municipal economy was also discussed. It was said

that in spite of the increase of trade prices of some of the construction materials, the prices of state dwellings will, still remain the same.

The government discussed a draft for regulation of the receipts and expenses in convertible currency and of trade with production means for 1990.

The drafts for decrees were approved in principle and it was agreed that their discussion will continue again next week after which they will be adopted.

BZNS Criticizes Privatization Program

AU0304125490 Sofia BTA in English
1005 GMT 3 Apr 90

["Government Criticized Severely"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME criticizes today by a signed material the Government's intentions to privatize in the first place trade, public catering and services.

According to this daily's opinion a single-party government with a restricted mandate should not predetermine things. Attention is drawn at the fact that in the country now there are some 27 billion leva without goods backing and that 8 to 9 billion leva are speculative. "Today you are offering goods for those money whole branches of them. [sentence as received] And who will buy them but the speculators."

The Government is proposed in the first place measures to strengthen money turnover by a compulsory internal loan, combined with exchange of the existing banknotes in a 1:1 ratio. A possibility is also considered to offer the privatization means as credits.

The issue is also raised to promptly free agriculture from the state shackles.

Rules for Private Foreign Currency Sales Changed

AU3103183190 Sofia BTA in English
1619 GMT 31 Mar 90

[Text] Sofia, March 31 (BTA)—The Bulgarian National Bank announced that the sale of foreign currency to private persons for their travel abroad is reduced. Instead of 65 U.S. dollars as it had been previously every Bulgarian citizen will be able to buy in the span of an year 30 U.S. dollars or the equivalent of other convertible currency.

As from April 2, 1990, a new exchange rate for purchase of foreign currency by local and foreign physical persons is introduced, as well as a new rate for sale of foreign currency to local physical persons for their travels abroad. This course will be declared on April 2 this year. Its determination and change will depend on the market conditions. Formerly the bank used to sell the dollar 3-4 times cheaper than was the black market rate in this country.

Further on Removing Price Controls on Some Goods

AU3103171690 Sofia BTA in English
1521 GMT 31 Mar 90

[Text] Sofia, March 31 (BTA)—As from April 1, tomorrow, the prices of 19 types of goods and services will only depend on demand and offer.

This was announced yesterday [30 March] at a press conference with Minister of Trade and Services Ekaterina Marinova. The transition to market price-formation for household services and production of small articles for the household will not match a random bidding. A control system will cool the wishes for abuses. The aim is to bring to the market everybody who can practice an economic activity needed for the people's everyday life, Minister Marinova said.

The prices of household utensils, haberdashery and passementerie goods, perfumery and cosmetics, mass jewellery, lighting fixtures, household fabrics, etc., will be freely contracted.

Freely formed will be the prices of all types of household services with the exception of lifts, TV and radio sets repairs, repair of shoes and perambulators, rite [as received] and telephone services.

National Bank Announces 'Floating Exchange Rate'

AU0204191890 Sofia BTA in English
1807 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 2 (BTA)—Bulgarians travelling abroad have to pay four times more for U.S. dollars or other convertible currencs.

The Bulgarian National Bank has announced a "floating exchange rate" and as of today the rate of the dollar will be set through the market mechanism of demand and supply. In another move, the bank cut by half the minimum quantity of freely convertible currency to be purchased by Bulgarians travelling abroad. They are now entitled to buy 30 dollars and not 65 as has been so far and must pay 9 levs 60 stotinki for a U.S. dollar.

The previous dollar exchage rate was around two levs for a dollar.

New Exchange Rate for Dollar Established

AU0304125190 Sofia BTA in English
1203 GMT 3 Apr 90

["The State Course of the Dollar Higher Than on the Black Market"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—As from yesterday Bulgarian citizens will pay 9.69 leva to a U.S. dollar. Yesterday the course of the dollar on the black market was 8.50 leva to a dollar. The official rate of the lev to the

dollar is in fact the real course of the lev to the foreign currencies, said the Bulgarian National Bank chairman Vladimir Vladimirov.

Vladimir Vladimirov said today in an interview with ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME that the change of course was a result of the economic crisis in this country, consisting in an almost fourfold increase of the foreign debt compared to 1984. This is all accompanied by a chronic drop of exports, which from 3 billion dollars per annum in 1984 went to below 2 billion last year.

Provided that in January and February 1989 the Bulgarian citizens bought from the Bulgarian National Bank 690 thousand currency leva upon their travel abroad, in the same two months this year this amount reached 7 million and 700, 000 dollars.

'Nikola Petkov' BZNS Leader Denies Unification

AU0204091690 Sofia BTA in English
0746 GMT 2 Apr 90

["Bulgarian Agrarian Parties Did Not Unite"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 2 (BTA)—The COURIER PRESS SERVICE of the BTA contacted Mr. Milan Drenchev, secretary of the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party, asking him for an explanation about REUTERS' announcement, according to which an agreement was reached for the unification of the two agrarian parties.

Mr. Milan Drenchev stated, "the announcement of REUTERS is not true. This is an announcement of the Contact Group of the official Bulgarian Agrarian Party. The group made a proposal for unification, but it was accepted by neither of the parties. The problem will be seriously studied and a reply will be given in the near future whether such a union is possible or not".

Agreement Reported on Parties' Unification

AU0304103790 Sofia BTA in English
0911 GMT 3 Apr 90

["Contact Groups of the Two Agrarian Parties Come to Agreement"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 3 (BTA)—An agreement has been reached between contact groups of the BZNS [Bulgarian Agrarian National Union] and the BZNS "Nikola Petkov", for the two political parties unification. ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME writes today that both parties have made compromises to reach the agreement and that the conditions for the agreement have been handed to the leaderships to make decisions.

On April 6 this year the BZNS managing council will consider the basic problems, related with the Bulgarian Agrarian Party unification.

ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME writes about an interview given by Viktor Vulkov, BZNS chairman, to SELSKAYA ZHIZN, in which he tells of the inquiry which was recently held among 2,000 party members. Should the BZNS have or shouldn't it have allies in the elections? It is apparent from the answers that the agrarians do not wish to come in a pre-election union neither with the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] nor with the SDS [Union of Democratic Forces]. The prevailing majority stands for independent participation of the BZNS in the elections, Viktor Vulkov says.

In relation with the REUTER agency announcement that an agreement was reached between the two political parties, Milan Drenchev, leader of the BZNS "Nikola Petkov" said: "The REUTER announcement does not correspond to the truth. This is an announcement of the contact group of the official BZNS, which made a proposal for unification but it was not accepted by neither of the sides. This issue has seriously been considered and in the near future there will be an answer on whether such unity is possible."

The BZNS spokesman Ivan Glushkov confirmed that there has been an agreement reached between the contact groups.

Conservative Party Founded in Sofia

AU0304085390 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 31 Mar 90 p 2

[Report by Ventsislav Katsarski and Asen Lazov: "Conservative Party founded"]

[Text] A Conservative Party [Konservativna Partiya] was founded on 28 March 1990 in Sofia. It will work to improve the well-being of the Bulgarian people and create a modern economy and political stability. The party has a rightist orientation and disassociates itself from all parties and movements that profess extremism, oppression, and aggression.

More Information About Nuclear Program Sought

AU0304101990 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 26 Mar 90 p 1

[Krasimir Tsigularov article: "Where Do We 'Pour' the State Resources?"]

[Text] It happened during a televised news conference on 13 March 1990. Just when Professor Nikola Todoriev was trying to explain that the power shortage was over, the light went out in my district of Sofia. It is true that the interruption lasted only a short time and there was certainly a serious reason for it.

Nevertheless, ironically enough, the incident brought to mind an important fact, namely that while we are conducting endless talks at all kinds of roundtables, life is slowly but steadily chiseling away all our illusions.

I expected a great deal from the aforementioned news conference, but I did not learn anything new except for the tedious, repetitive enumeration of various problems and opinions. The only new thing we heard was that a

reduction of electric power consumption is envisioned—for the first time in many years.

Nevertheless, this situation prompts serious questions.

Letters, reports, and numerous articles—all dealing with the construction of our second nuclear power plant—are daily submitted to our editorial board. They have recently been focusing on two main problems—seismological and ecological. The great issue related to this project, however, is the economic one above all else. The heated discussion about the existence of a crack in the earth under the Belene nuclear power station's construction site is both interesting and important, but it pushes the analysis of the very need for this plant into the background.

Every megawatt of power installed in a 1,000-megawatt reactor costs four times more than the VVER-400 reactor. As a amatter of fact, Soviet experts expressed a rather critical evaluation about small reactors in the USSR press.

The construction of a nuclear plant swallows nearly one-fourth of the energy it is expected to produce in the future under normal working conditions. According to a report submitted to the Council of Ministers by the Committee for Power Supply in September 1989, the prolonged deadlines for the repair of the first, third, and fifth power units in Kozloduy were due to the need to restore the basic equipment on account of its unsatisfactory quality.

Under such circumstances—where should the state resources be poured? As a matter of fact, the power supply sector once more received the largest share of the already reduced investments. Is it not true that the construction of nuclear power stations is swallowing the resources that are not sufficient for the maintainance of the remaining power supply installations? This also applies to the normal development of the existing program on building small and micro water power supply installations, or to resources envisioned for the ecological adaptation of thermo-electric power plants.

For several months already, we have tried in vain to obtain some information on important statistical data, either by submitting direct questions to the Committee for Power Supply, or through articles published in RABOTNICHESKO DELO. This applies, above all, to figures on the country's power supply and energy balance, and in the second place, to a scientifically based forecast on future energy consumption, not according to the mechanical increase envisioned by plan, but on the basis of the emerging production restructuring and under the conditions of renouncing excessive energy consumption and polluting technologies.

Instead of being supplied with such data, we were lectured on the usefulness of total nuclear strategy and on the lack of any alternative power resources.

A newspaper's editorial board can accept silence on such subjects for a certain time. Nevertheless, we are obliged to respect the opinions of thousands of people who are not willing to accept the further construction of nuclear plants.

Svishtov was seriously affected by an earthquake in 1977. This town is still marked by the irreparable damage of that tragic event. Svishtov also suffered from one of the most serious industrial accidents in our country—namely, the fire that destroyed a whole plant belonging to the Sviloza Combine. The ruins are still there to see. The citizens of Svishtov have supplied with gas masks for the eventuality of a new accident. Are they expected to believe in the traditional, optimistic assessments?

Seismic and ecological evaluations of the Belene construction site are required. However, an accurate economic analysis is even more urgently required today. The paradoxical situation that one and the same department should be in charge of determining both the needs and the budget resources for covering these needs requires at least sensible arguments in favor of this situation, and also calls for appropriate control and publicity. In the opposite case, the decisions adopted in the closed departmental circle will again be followed by the mechanical "unanimous vote of approval" in our highly controversial parliament.

This is what I expected to hear from the televised news conference. If this happened during the short time while my district was in the dark—then I would be satisfied, but if not—I should think that it was a waste of time for all of us.

Citizens Submit Applications To Change Names

AU0304192490 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 27 Mar 90 p 1

[Text] Dulgopol, Varna correspondent Yordan Aleksandrov—Up to 20 March, the municipal people's council had accepted 742 official applications to change names. Their total number in the municipality will certainly exceed 6,000—almost one-half of the number expected in the Varna region.

The first court session will be held on 3 April in the village of Medovets. Two teams of judges from the Provadiya Regional Court will be able to consider about 200 applications. However, since about 13,000 applications are expected to be received, the Ministry of Justice will probably need to help with additional staff.

At meetings with representatives of the Movemen' for Rights and Freedoms, Fatherland Front workers are explaining the law and assisting in resolving moot points in its application.

Further on Name Changing

AU0204192090 Sofia BTA in English 1729 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Kurdzhali, April 2 (BTA)—Stefan Boyanov, 29, and Nikolina Naumova, 27, of the village of Miladinovo were the first to report to the County Court and readopt their original names Ramadan Kashimov and Nurie Mekhmedova which they were forced to change five years ago.

The simplified procedure takes just several minutes. This allowed the ten panels of judges to consider upwards of 400 name-change pleas filed so far. Eight of the panels sat at the larger communes in the municipality to facilitate mainly elderly people and small children at the height of the busy season.

It was a different story for a panel at Kostino Commune, where 31 applications had to be considered. District court justice Natalia Pachilova explained, "We were completely ready for work at 8 a.M. But in spite of the repeated calls no one turned up. Groups of men and women outside insisted on a name restoration by an administrative procedure, and on their declarations made five years ago to be returned and destroyed. We returned to Kurdzhali after an hour's wait as no one wished to get his or her name back by a court procedure."

Lilov Receives CPSU's Rafail Fedorov

AU0204123990 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 1 Apr 90 p 2

[Ivan Georgiev report: "Meeting at the BCP Supreme Council"]

[Text] Aleksandur Lilov, Supreme Council chairman of the Bulgarian Communist Party, has received Rafail Fedorov, first deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee "International" Department. They discussed topical issues of cooperation between the two parties under conditions of the restructuring and the democratization of society in the USSR and Bulgaria.

Viktor Sharapov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria, took part in the conversation.

USSR Trade Representative Views Relations

AU0304133490 Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian No. 14, 2 Apr 90 p 9

[Interview with Valentin Dyakov, "USSR trade representative in Bulgaria," by POGLED reporter Dyanko Shishkov; place and date not given: "Farewell to Bad Habits"]

[Text] [Shishkov] Let us begin with the present state of Bulgarian-USSR economic relations. How do you assess them, as good or unsatisfactory?

[Dyakov] According to the 1989 results, Bulgaria occupies fourth place in the USSR's foreign trade exchange. This is about nine percent of the USSR's foreign trade. For our part, we are steadily your main partners. Two main factors predetermine our leading place in Bulgaria's trade exchange: the flexible and stable Soviet market and our significant possibilities. Our economic relations are not restricted to trade. Much is being done in the sphere of investment cooperation.

Naturally, the deterioration of the two countries' economic situation negatively affects our economic relations. They lose their flexibility, the discipline of implementing deliveries deteriorates, and our debts to Western countries grow. The balance of mutual payments is a complicated matter. The convertible ruble and price forming are detached from the realities of the world market. The two countries' enterprises are not interested in exports paid for in convertible rubles. After adopting the principle of cost accounting, our enterprises are increasing their requirements for the quality of the goods, and this also applies to the joint enterprises....

[Shishkov] It is not only our opposition that expresses the opinion that economic cooperation with the USSR is not profitable for Bulgaria. What is your opinion on this matter?

[Dyakov] Such an assessment does not correspond to the truth. Let me present the facts. Last year the mutual deliveries reached R12.6 billion. Raw materials dominate the Soviet deliveries. About 54 percent of them are raw materials and fuel. It is through import from the USSR that Bulgaria satisfies 95 percent of its need of coal, 90 percent—oil, 85 percent—electric power* (footnote: We were surprised by this figure. After all, we have been told that we produce enough electric power. Therefore, we called Danail Danailov, chief expert of the Committee on Power Supply's Central Controller Management, who clarified: "This number cannot be correct. Only about 8.5 percent of the power used in our country is imported from the USSR.), 100 percent—natural gas and iron ore, and 800 percent—cotton.

On the other hand, machines and equipment comprise 67 percent of the Bulgarian export. According to practice established decades ago, their price surpasses two to three times the price accepted throughout the world, while the technical quality of your machines are significantly lower than the quality of Western machines. The price of the raw materials that are the predominant part of the Soviet export practically correspond to the world price. During the last Five-Year Plan period, the value of the USSR export decreased annually by three percent, while the Bulgarian increased by about three-five percent. This was explained by the unfavorable situation in the world market. We must also take into consideration the fact that 60 percent of the goods Bulgaria imports from the USSR are "foreign currency" goods, which can be easily marketed on the world market. The share of such goods in the Bulgarian export is about 10 percent....

[Shishkov] The price of oil rapidly increased in the period of 1973-85. The USSR was then in a very favorable position.

[Dyakov] Really, during that period the value of the USSR raw materials increased, while the mutual payments were much lower than the prices accepted throughout the world. If the USSR were to sell its raw materials in the world market, then, according to my calculations, we would have earned R5 billion more. Noting the situation of the Bulgarian economy at that time, the USSR Government provided Bulgaria with free aid of more 2R billion for the development of agriculture. As far as I know, those means were used for other purposes.

[Shishkov] Some people say that the tension in our domestic market at the moment is related to the great quantity of consumer goods that we export to the USSR. How do you assess this claim?

[Dyakov] Let me present the facts: In 1989 the USSR purchased about 37,800 metric tonnes of meat and meat products and 10,000 metric tonnes of cheese, which was respectively four and 10 percent of your production. The USSR also purchased about four percent of your fresh fruits and vegetables, and this quantity constantly decreases. If in 1986 Bulgaria exported 188,000 metric tonnes of fresh fruits and vegetables, in 1989 this quantity decreased to 119,000 metric tonnes. The export of fresh pepper sharply decreased. The deliveries of grapes stopped completely. Because of the ill-advised anti-alcohol campaign in our country, we sharply decreased the delivery of wine. As far as the light industry goods are concerned, in recent years their value remains at the same level, but their quantity decreased. For many years we were unable to purchase in Bulgaria fashionable goods that are increasingly sought in the USSR. Thus, the tension in Bulgaria's consumer market is not related to export to the USSR.

[Shishkov] How do you see the roads toward resolving the problems that hinder our economic cooperation?

[Dyakov] Overcoming the serious shortcomings in our trade-economic relations and ensuring a greater balance in the mutual trade exchange will facilitate the free use of convertible currency by CEMA countries, according to the prices accepted in the world. Such an approach will help us to increase the quality and technological level of the mutual trade exchange.

'Anti-Bulgarian' Views Noted in SFRY

AU0304102990 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 26 Mar 90 p 3

[Report by OTECHESTVEN FRONT correspondent Velizar Enchev: "Scenes from a Well-Known Script"]

[Text] Belgrade—The familiar voices warning of "the danger from the East" have been once again heard from Skopje. These were in complete discord with the current internal problems, and it was no coincidence that the Belgrade newspaper POLITIKA EKSPRES entitled its report about the most southern republic "The Kosovization of Macedonia."

The facts given in the report convincingly show where the true problems of the Socialist Republic [SR] of Macedonia lie: In its western regions a total Albanization has already been completed, while in some large settlements (Gostivar) only 18 percent of the populations are so-called Macedonians. In Skopje, however, the proportion between the two ethnic communities is 50:50, with a tendency for the Albanian nationality to increase rapidly because of its exceptionally high birthrate.

The first voice to be heard was that of Ivan Ivanov, a SR of Macedonia representative in the Yugoslav Prliament. In the tone of an ultimatum, he asked federal Foreign Affairs Secretary Budimir Loncar the following question: When will Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar make a visit to Bulgaria, and in what manner will he raise the issue of the Macedonian minority in this country? The answer was as follows: The exact date of the visit is still not fixed, but as far as the "Macedonian issue" is concerned, Budimir Loncar will do what is necessary to satisfy Yugoslav interests. We see that the scenario is a familiar one. First anti-Bulgarian feelings are created in parliament, supported most actively by the delegates of the SR of Macedonia, and then the Skopje press, and recently also the Zagreb press, foment the "Macedonian issue," accusing the Bulgarian leadership and opposition of blindly following Zhivkovism with regard to the nationality issue. The next scene is quite logical: The Yugoslav diplomacy will take the "moods" existing in the federation into account and will raise the "Macedonian issue" during Budimir Loncar's forthcoming visit to Bulgaria....

However, the familiar course of this scenario ends at the moment when the Bulgaria side is mentioned, because since 10 November Bulgaria's position on the "Macedonian issue" has been clear and consistent.... This is in fact also acknowledged by the authoritative Serbian publications POLITIKA and NIN, which directly stated in their recent issues that the Yugoslav diplomacy finds in Bulgaria a completely new partner who does not intend to make any compromises regarding its national interests.

The second anti-Bulgarian voice came from the SR of Macedonia Assembly, where one seldom hears a good word about Bulgaria. The assembly chairman stated that the reply of the Bulgarian parliament was a fresh expression of the hostile escalation that it is trying to impose on the Federal Assembly, and that it is the latter's duty to indignantly reject the Bulgarian position on the "Macedonian issue."

We began with Kosovo, and perhaps it would be best also to end with it, and not only because of the rules of the genres of journalism. The escalating Kosovization of the SR of Macedonia shows once again the truth of the

old maxim followed by more than one regime in the world: When the ground becomes hot under your feet, it is easiest to throw the glowing coals into your neighbor's yard.

EC To Lift Import Quotas for Nation's Goods

AU0304210090 Sofia BTA in English 2033 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Brussels, April 3 (BTA correspondent)—Bulgaria and the European Community initialed a trade and economic cooperation agreement here today.

The agreement provides for a more adequate use of the considerable but underutilized commercial exchange capabilities of the parties. Bulgaria undertakes to prevent discrimination against EC exports, and the Common Market undertakes to phase out the import quotas for Bulgarian goods. The first import quotas will be lifted immediately after the agreement takes effect in a couple of months' time. Further quotas will be eliminated on an annual basis when the mixed committee monitoring compliance with the agreement meets once a year to settle disputes. Brussels and Sofia will rotate the venues for these meetings.

All EC import quotas for Bulgarian goods will go by the end of 1995. The agreement, however, provides an opportunity for an earlier date, and the Common Market has already decided to proceed in this way with regard to other East European countries.

The accord lays down a framework for wide-ranging and mutually advantageous economic cooperation between Bulgaria and the EC in practically all fields except nuclear power. For the time being, cooperation in nuclear power is envisaged only in the agreement between the European Community and the USSR.

The agreement with Bulgaria, a typical first-generation accord between an East European country and the organisation, will be automatically renewable after the expiration of its initial ten-year term.

The initialing of the agreement creates conditions for a full normalisation of Bulgarian-EC relations. It gives the Common Market full legal and moral grounds for broad support to the reforms in Bulgaria. The agreement provides a reliable basis for a further promotion of bilateral relations which, as the EC sees it, should lead in the coming years to association between the Common Market and the East European countries, Bulgaria included.

Need for Foreign Workers Questioned

AU0304084590 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 30 Mar 90 p 2

[Margit Terziradeva article: "Does Bulgaria Really Need 17,729 Guest Workers?"]

[Text] From being an unearthly phantom that ostensibly only frequented foreign backyards, unemployment is very tangibly approaching our borders and, having become real, it threatens to unsettle and aggravate the life of thousands of Bulgarian citizens. Under these circumstances, we are more and more frequently asking ourselves whether the presence of foreign workers in the Bulgarian economic organizations and companies is justified. Do they not jeopardize the daily bread of the local citizens, and being aware of the situation in which we find ourselves, should we pay extra money to people who have come from a long way away? If the same conditions and wages were offered to our citizens, would they not hasten to fill the gaps in the work force?

The report recently released by the Committee on Labor and Social Security and signed by its chairman, Georgi Nachev, answers those questions to a certain degree. The report shows that for more than 20 years the People's Republic of Bulgaria has been implementing cooperation arrangements with other countries in the sphere of labor resources. This situation was caused by acute cadre problems in many branches of material production, the need to curb the undesirable migration problems, and our country's economic interest.

According to the current intergovernmental agreements with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (1980-1990), the Republic of Cuba (1984-1990), the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (1984-1990), and the Republic of Nicaragua (1983-1990), some 17,729 foreigners are working in our country at present. No new foreign workers will be admitted during the current year. It has been provided that a total of 5,300 foreign workers will return to their countries by the end of 1990. It is envisioned that each year 5,000 foreign workers will leave our country. The Bulgarian side has done nothing to renew the aforementioned intergovernmental agreements, which are valid until the end of the year.

If in the future the interests of the People's Republic of Bulgaria require talks to be held on cooperation with foreign countries in the sphere of labor resources, the conditions that have been envisioned in the agreement between the Bulgarian Government and the Confederation of the Independent Bulgarian Trade Unions will be strictly observed, the report reads.

Competent specialists of the "Foreign Manpower" Administration of the Committee on Labor and Social Work categorically state that the foreign workers have no privileges. They receive the same wages as Bulgarian citizens, only in Bulgarian leva, and they pay taxes and insurance. In addition 10 percent of their wages are saved by the Foreign Trade Bank for their governments, and are calculated in the payments balance of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with those countries.

One must remember an additional fact: Not a single foreign worker in Bulgaria has begun to produce handbags. Most of them are welders, bricklayers, plasterers, casing workers, concrete workers, dyers, metallurgists,

spinners, shipbuilders, weavers, and finishers. Many of them work in the meat-processing and fur-processing industries and in the production of kaolin, as well as in other occupations and branches in which a prolonged acute shortage of manpower exists. It is doubtful whether the unemployed Bulgarians will rush to find employment precisely in those occupations.

So much for our interest.

Naturally, the benefit is mutual. The foreign workers acquire experience and proficiency in our country and they return to their countries as experienced cadres, capable of competing under the conditions of acute unemployment that exist in those countries. We should not envy them for the opportunity they have to export a certain amount of goods for personal and family needs to the tune of 50 percent of their wages, because what could they do with the leva if they export our currency, except to keep the money as a souvenir?

It is a different matter when attempts to violate the customs regulations that exist in our country are concerned, or when attempts are made to trade with foreign currency, which they have either imported with them or have illegally acquired here. This really complicates the life of the economic police and customs authorities. However, the question is whether the foreign workers are guilty. After all, they have grasped long before us the practical principles of the market economy: Everything is possible in the market, and that includes goods, manpower, and money.

Proposal To Eliminate Exit Visas Discussed

AU0204125890 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 24 Mar 90 p 2

[Boris Gergov report: "Proposal to Eliminate Exit Visas"]

[Text] Georgi Yordanov, chief of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Foreign Travel Passports Department, stated as follows: "Exit visas may be eliminated within the next three months. This proposal has been submitted, and we are awaiting a relevant decision by the National Assembly."

If parliament should decide to change the state coat of arms, which is also being discussed, the present passports will be valid until their prescribed terms of expiration. Nevertheless, our citizens will have the opportunity of exchanging their passports against a fee amounting to 50 leva.

As many as 340,000 Bulgarians from all over the country have already been provided with new passports, however, most of them—namely approximatley 130,000—are Sofia citizens. Nearly every second passport owner has applied for and received an exit visa.

The flow of applications for passports continue. From 12,000 to 14,000 passports are being issued weekly. Without incrasing the number of personnel on the payroll, our Foreign Travel Passports Department is working in two shifts on weekdays and one shift on Saturdays. This is how we manage to achieve our goal of issuing passports within the 30-day limit.

With their new passports, Bulgarians abroad are neither refugees nor expatriates. They are either temporary or permanent residents. This applies to over 7,000 people who recently went to Canada, to the nearly 250 Bulgarians who are in Ireland, to 3,000-5,000 Bulgarians who left for Sweden, and various other countries.

What about the trend? Will this process of development in our country be similar to the situation in Hungary, which introduced a democratic passport regime in 1988? After the the first six months, aproximately 4,500 Hungarians remained abroad, while their number diminished to 900-800 by the end of the following year. Nevertheless, considering the current existing economic crisis in our country, it is difficult to answer this question.

The majority of our people are applying for new passports in order to obtain the $65 per capita that citizens traveling abroad are entitled to because there is no other way of obtaining foreign currency within the country.

Certain citizens are looking for special loopholes by trying to obtain two passports. For the time being, however, this method proves unsucessful. Thanks to the electronic equipment used in processing the applications, such tricksters are caught, the Foreign Travel Passports Department officials told us.

Changes in Passport Regulations Expected

AU3103194890 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian 29 Mar 90 p 3

[Report on interview with Colonel Georgi Yordanov, chief of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Foreign Travel Passport Department, by Krasimira Nikolova—place and date not given: "Visa for Tanganiyka, Passport for Albania"]

[Text] I spent one hour at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Foreign Travel Passports Department. My interview with Colonel Georgi Yordanov, chief of the department in question, was businesslike. We did not indulge in any literary digressions, but dealt only with bare facts. Since 1 September 1989, 322,786 people obtained foreign travel passports for private visits. The number of official passports amounts to 74,000. The exit visas are required only for capitalist countries and 147,374 have of them have been issued to this date. Just a moment! Did we not decide to compete with the civilized world? Is it not true that, carried away by this noble effort, we tasted the fruits of total self-evaluation? It is true, and people at the Ministry of Internal Affairs have difficulties in assimilating their "notoriety" as a repressive institution. However, they are working hard instead of wasting their time on emotions.

Amendments to the Law on Foreign Travel Passports are expected in the near future, which are related to the code on its application and to some other legal documents. The major innovation is the elimination of exit visas for private and official passports. The result of eliminating exit visas is the elimination of sanctions—such as those related to prolonged stays abroad without permission. The authors of the draft amendment submitted to the National Assembly are the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, and others. The further course of events is evident—the proposals are expected to be adopted at one of the forthcoming parliament sessions. So much for theory.

What about the practical situation, however? Well, it certainly presents the usual, colorful picture, typical for our country. From the dark hours of the early morning, people are standing in line, they are blocking the entrances of the passport departments and of the State Saving Bank branches. Rumors about increased fees and all sorts of restrictions are being spread. Nervous citizens are pressed for time, but still eager to hear fresh news. "They ask all sorts of questions," Yana Stoyanova, employee on duty at the Information Window on 48 Georgi Dimitrov Avenue, says. "They keep asking about code symbols and certification, about timetables, and ticket prices, about telephone numbers of protocol services, about border control checkpoints, and many other things...."

Well, people are entitled to ask questions. Col. Georgi Yordanov and his colleagues are also entitled to ask questions, such as for example: Why their payroll remains the same as it was in 1974, although travel abroad increased approximately 10-12 times since that year? Why is the electronic system for data processing in their department so amateurish (nevertheless, the system functions, thanks to the sponsors!) On the one hand we wish that Bulgarians should travel like civilized men, yet.....

Why has the bank no perfect system for distributing foreign currency? Is this shortcoming an excuse for the interesting fact that 290 passports "got lost" since the beginning of the year? How did it happen? Someone left his passport in the pocket of his blue jeans, which were dumped into the automatic washer, while in other cases children used the passport for lighting a fire in the stove....There are certainly other ways of mislaying one's passport. All these stories are very revealing—because they imply that the person in question is entitled to a new "fabulous" amount of $600. [figure as published]

Let us ask no more questions, so that we may propose a few more figures to our readers—for the simple reason of making them reflect. The democratic legislation that permitted people to freely go abroad, a law that was born on 1 September 1989, sent 750 of our compatriots to Canada, 230 Bulgarian citizens to Ireland, and 5,000 Bulgarian Muslims to Sweden (only 200 of them were refused asylum). Adding these figures to a few hundred more Bulgarians who stayed in other countries, the whole figure amounts to 6,000-7,000 people, and not to hundreds of thousands, let alone a million.

National Leaders Address Czech, Slovak Problems

Slovak Premier Cic Interviewed

AU0304124390 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 3 Apr 90 p 3

[Interview with Slovak Prime Minister Milan Cic by Hubert Margl; place and date not given: "There Are Much Better Names for Our Federation"]

[Text] [Margl] Mr. Prime Minister, the Slovak National Council has rejected in a resolution the new state name, "Czecho-Slovak Federative Republic," adopted by the Federal Assembly in Prague. Do you personally support this step, and what state name do the Slovaks want?

[Cic] Married couples also have problems occasionally, and if a baby is born, they have to decide on a name. I would like to stress that the overwhelming majority of the Slovaks, and I think also of the Czechs, are interested in living in a common state that is based on federative structures. Generally, we are witnessing a process of integration all over the world, and not a process of disintegration. We believe that in this process small states would not stand a great chance of building a prospering economy and a flourishing cultural life.

[Margl] However, secession of Slovakia from the federation was vehemently demanded at demonstrations in Bratislava during the past few days.

[Cic] I do not want to rule out that every people has the right to form a state of its own. The Slovak National Council and the government, the leading Slovak bodies, have explained their standpoint on the new name of the Republic. They are convinced that the name adopted by the Federal Assembly in Prague does not sufficiently express the sovereignty of these two peoples and republics that are entitled to equal rights.

[Margl] Do you not see the danger—as Havel warned—that Czechoslovakia might make a fool of itself internationally?

[Cic] I think that, if we support the federation—which I do—it must be evident that this is a federation of two republics with equal rights.

Let me give you an example: I believe that there are better names than the one adopted: Czech and Slovak Republic or Czech and Slovak Federative Republic. One could find numerous other names that would clearly express the essential aspect.

We now have "Czechoslovak Federative Republic" in Czech and "Czecho-Slovak Federative Republic" in Slovak. Most people think that this is practically the same and only a matter of grammar. However, this is not a minor problem, but a significant legal, political, and cultural issue.

[Margl] Did the Slovak National Council not bow to pressure from the street?

[Cic] No, it did not. We do not want to do that in the future either, neither the National Council nor the government. A total of 3,000-4,000 people do not represent the whole people.

I receive letters and telephone calls every day, calling for the preservation of the Czechoslovak state. However, we will insist on our claims that the Slovak republic and the people must have a firm place in this federation.

[Margl] The resolution also provides for negotiations between the governments of the two federal republics. When will talks be opened?

[Cic] I talked with the Czech head of government, Mr. Pithart today. The two governments will meet on 10 and 12 April. On this occasion, we will discuss many issues concerning cooperation, but also problems that disturb our relations.

[Margl] Slovakia is facing increasing problems with Hungary because of the minorities on each other's territory. Does this constitute a permanent dangerous source of conflict?

[Cic] The 17 November revolution has given rise to a great number of difficulties. We do not want to deny certain problems, not only between the peoples, but also between ethnic groups and between the peoples and minorities.

Last week we held talks with the chairmen of the district committees in the southern and eastern regions. These officials included Slovaks and Hungarians. They criticized me and the government—I gladly accepted this criticism—for turning this problem into a big issue. They consider the situation to be less serious than we do.

[Margl] What claims by the minority are a problem for you?

[Cic] One can hardly comply with demands that only Hungarian should be spoken in the areas where the Hungarian minority lives, and that its members should only be instructed in the Hungarian language. With this attitude they will only harm their own children, because as a result of this, their children can only build a future on their own territory.

I think that our law on ethnic groups contained in the Constitution will solve the problems at a high level. Minority problems also exist in Hungary, and I am convinced that we have settled this issue at an incomparably higher level.

[Margl] Is the nationalist issue consciously being stressed in Slovakia in the current election campaign?

[Cic] Yes, I am convinced of that. However, we call on all parties not to build their future on the revival of nationalism, no matter what nationalism—Czech, Slovak, or Hungarian.

[Margl] The nation will face another two years of transition after the elections in June because another round of elections is scheduled for 1992. Is this a necessary evil or an unnecessary temporary solution?

[Cic] First of all, one must say that we are learning democracy. The new legislative organs will appoint new governments after the June elections. These governments should consist of a large number of experts because we are facing enormous economic and ecological problems.

We assume that our society will be largely consolidated in two years' time. Then elections should be held that guarantee stability.

[Margl] You have recently left the Czechoslovak Communist Party. Why so late?

[Cic] I joined the party when I was a young man. At the time I was convinced that the party would be able to solve many social problems. Unfortunately, it made serious mistakes in practice, as 40 years of history have shown. Why did I not leave the party earlier, despite these mistakes? I thought that the Communist Party would break with its past practices after 17 November, that the party would renew itself, and that it would adopt a new name. However, this did not happen.

[Margl] Do you want to remain without political affiliations, and would you like to remain in your present office, or do you strive for higher state office?

[Cic] I announced that I will work very hard until the elections. As far as my candidacy for a political party is concerned, I hope that I will keep my promise and not run on behalf of a political party. I will continue to be at the disposal of the people, but I have no aspirations to a particular office. I have my job, and I am willing to resume it.

[Margl] Do you think Vaclav Havel should remain state president after the elections?

[Cic] I am convinced that he will remain president. He enjoys the confidence of the Czech and Slovak people.

[Margl] What expectations do you link with your upcoming visit to Vienna, your first visit abroad?

[Cic] I have gladly accepted the invitation extended to me by Mayor Zilk, who visited me last week and also discussed with me a possible participation of Bratislava in the 1995 World Exposition. We hope that our talks in Vienna will yield specific results.

[Margl] Would Bratislava stage the exposition jointly with Vienna if Budapest were to withdraw?

[Cic] Yes, this was agreed with Zilk. However, we assume that Budapest will participate as well.

Cic Speech Considers Republic's Name

AU0304163390 Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 2 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[Statement by Slovak Premier Milan Cic on Slovak Television on 30 March]

[Text] The passing of the constitutional law on the name, or names, of our federation following dramatic debates in the Federal Assembly has generated serious concern among some inhabitants of the Slovak Republic. They disagree with this constitutional law.

Why, in fact? Simply, because:

—one cannot agree with the Czechoslovak state having two names;
—one, the Slovak name, for Slovakia's domestic needs and the other one for the Czech Republic and for use abroad;
—second, because there is a lack of understanding about the existence of a sovereign Slovak nation with its inalienable right to self-determination and to the expression of its national identity—also in the common federative state.

It is becoming apparent that this is not only a question of a hyphen or divider.

As President Havel correctly stated, for the Slovak nation the missing hyphen is a material symbol showing that its national identity has, in fact, never been acknowledged.

As you surely know by now, the Slovak National Council and the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted a statement, in which they clearly subscribe to the idea of a federative Czechoslovak Republic and dissociate themselves from individual separatist views.

I believe that all upright citizens of our Czechoslovak Republic are, and must be, interested in the coexistence between our nations that is consistently based on the right of nations to self- determination, on the implementation of the principle of cooperation, and on the principle of tolerance in dealing with the problems of our republic. Only in such a way can we jointly build a dignified life in our national republics and in the federative state, a life worthy of humanity.

We regret that in the Czech Republic, too, serious signs of nationalism are becoming apparent, even views that have their roots in insurmountable Czechoslovakism. We had an opportunity to bear witness to this in the television news on Thursday [29 March].

We would be very happy if the attitudes of citizens of our Slovak Republic, too, did not reflect any expressions of nationalism, which is similar to Czech nationalism and whose roots reach back to the first Czechoslovak Republic.

We must not lose sight of the unity and ideals of both our nations, ideals which united us on 17 November and on the platform of which the Government of National Understanding was formed. We must not let ourselves be deprived of this unity and ideals!

Czech, Slovak Premiers Issue Statements

LD0304182990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Petr Pithart, premier of the Czech republic, and Milan Cic, premier of the Slovak republic, met in the early evening in Prague today to solve topical problems of Czech-Slovak reciprocity [vzajemnost]. On this occasion, they made statements:

Petr Pithart, Czech premier, said among other things that we are experiencing a test of coexistence of Czechs and Slovaks in a common state, although it is a state founded on sincerely held federative principles. The so-called hyphen dispute gives an insufficient picture of the essence of the conflict; it seems to be only a deceptive issue hiding the depth of much more fundamental accumulated problems, complexes, and misunderstandings, about which—thank to its hidden character—we know very little indeed.

Petr Pithart then said that if we look at the problem from the Slovak side, we see its essence in ensuring Slovak national identity. From the Czech side, it is a threat to the cohesion of our common state. The method in which the Czech-Slovak, or respectively the Slovak-Czech, discussions—or today, unfortunately, polemics—are being conducted, has not made it possible for us to mutually clarify our stands and fears. It has not helped the public of either of our nations to become fully aware that both mentioned values—the Slovak identity and the cohesion of the federation—do not exclude each other at all. We must bring to light the hidden meaning of this dispute. I hope, Petr Pithart went on to say, that the Slovak side takes the initiative, because it is up to it to explain calmly and clearly the true essence of its concern about the national being. And it is up to the Czech side then to listen to such Slovak voices calmly and attentively, and then equally clearly and rationally to explain its own stands.

Petr Pithart also stated this when on 5 March in the Czech National Council he voiced a fear that we should not only remember the Czech state during some kind of shock, confrontation,or a sudden disappointment, when he said that it is necessary to build the state organically and gradually. He did not then realize that in less than a month he would have to add another warning:

I ask my fellow-citizens—Czechs, Moravians, and Silesians, Petr Pithart said—not to be aware of their Czech national or state feelings only when they are setting themselves apart from Slovaks and, not to turn to those feelings only when reacting to Slovaks' reservations. Anyway, some of these reservations are caused by the inability of the Czech side to put itself in Slovak shoes. If, however, the arguments and will of the Slovak nation deviate from the common path—on which we have wished and still wish to walk—to its own, independent path, we cannot do anything else but to accept such a desire calmly, deliberately, and without anger. Let us not allow them, Petr Pithart said, to be viewed as a disintegrative element inside the uniting Europe.

Let us not cast doubts over the credit with which we have entered from the recent sealed-off state to the broader world. Let us not think only about the past, but also the future—Czechs and Slovaks, Slovaks and Czechs.

In conclusion, Petr Pithart expressed the conviction that for our nations there is only one common path to Europe.

The Slovak Premier Milan Cic noted that these days the Czech and Slovak publics are engaged in heated discussions of the constitutional law, which does not solve in an ideal way the title of our joint federative republic. He reassured that the Slovak National Council, the Slovak republic government, the Public Against Violence, and the absolute majority of political parties and movements as well as the citizens unanimously follow the principle of coexistence of Czechs, Slovaks, and other nationalities in a joint federation. The heated discussions around the title of the state represent only a tip of the iceberg. There exist considerably more important controversies in economic and other matters.

I strongly oppose wasting our energy in the precious weeks arguing about which of our two nations has brought its particular contribution to the present difficulties. This energy is much more urgently needed for solving the tasks of our common future. I, however, think, Milan Cic went on to say, that we have no reason to push into the future the tip of the iceberg—the joint title of our federation. According to the experts' report, certain discrepancies have already occurred in the process of approval of the constitutional law and the arbitration committee's amendments in the Federal Assembly. If the executive law wished to respect the constitutional law, it would have to abolish the conclusions of the arbitration committee. Milan Cic therefore suggested returning to the problem in an appropriate form and removing the discrepancies of how to arrive at a single title in Czech and Slovak, at a title which would on the one hand take into account the identity and equality of both our nations and which would at the same time be acceptable to both sides. Each delay in solving this problem provides a reason for reinforcing extremist and nonconstructive emotions on both sides.

In conclusion, Milan Cic stressed that he unequivocally opposes the passions which stem from outlived Czechoslovakism on the one hand from separatistic extremes on the other. He spoke in favor of a joint federation of two strong, prosperous national republics.

Dubcek, Slovak Leaders Reject Extremism

LD0304210190 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1500 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The leadership of the Slovak National Council—Rudolf Schuster, Jan Budaj, Jan Majer, Jozef Sirotnak, and (Gabor Zasloz), with the participation of Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal Assembly—met in Bratislava today. In connection with the adoption of the bill on the name of the Republic in the Federal Assembly, and the statement of the Slovak National Council and the government of the Slovak Republic, they stated that this question must be dealt with in a considered way in harmony with the principles of the statehood of both national republics in a joint federation. They rejected manifestations of pressure connected with extremist demands which disrupt the progress of democratization of the life of society and cause tension in relations between the Slovak and Czech nations.

The participants of the meeting, the leadership of the Czech National Council, and the chairman of the Federal Assembly expressed themselves in favor of a joint meeting of the leaderships of the highest representative and executive organs of the republics and the federation which would consider methods of dealing with this situation.

Civic Forum, VPN Statement Urges Discussion

LD0304144190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1330 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Representatives of Civic Forum and Public Against Violence [VPN] have issued a joint statement in which they have expressed their identity of views on the need to forestall problems in relations between our nations by timely and businesslike discussions. They have called on the governments and representative bodies of both republics to set up in the shortest possible time a joint committee that would draw up solid principles and stages for a transition to a new concept of the Federation that would link together two soverign, state-forming [statotvornych] national republics.

They have suggested further that the activity in the preparation of the constitutions of the national republics and the constitution of the federation be coordinated above all in such a way so as to achieve an agreement on the method and extent of delegating powers to the national republics in the constitution of the Federation.

Representatives of Civic Forum and Public Against Violence have at the same time called on the federal and both national governments to jointly, and speedily, finalize principles governing the transition to a market economy and to inform all citizens extensively about them.

In the joint statement they have also expressed their dissatisfaction at the way in which some media have been reporting the problem of relations between our nations, in particular Czechoslovak television and Czechoslovak radio and they regard it necessary to improve rapidly and markedly the flow of information to citizens about the situation in both republics. For this reason they have called on the governments to discuss the situation in the media. They have also proposed that Czechoslovak television and Czechoslovak radio initiate without delay a number of debates among well respected representatives of Czech and Slovak culture and public life about relations between our two nations so that the public so that the public can become acquainted with various views and hear the possibility and necessity of seeking a common way out.

In the joint statement the representatives of Civic Forum and Public Against Violence have also voiced their agreement that the issue of the title of the common state must not divide us. They have stressed that they are resolved to help jointly and within a short period of time to bring about understanding for all also in regard to this issue. For our nations there exists only one common course along the road to Europe, says the joint statement.

Prague Hospital Releases Havel 3 Apr

LD0304183190 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] President of the Republic Vaclav Havel was discharged from a Prague hospital today [3 April] into home care. He visited the Civic Forum Coordination Center in Prague. In an hour-long discussion with Jan Urban, member of the council, they spoke about the present political situation in Czechoslovakia. Jan Urban described building the foundations of a democratic society as the most important current task. This was supported by the president; he said the tasks of Civic Forum are identical to his tasks.

Havel's Scandinavia Trip Postponed; Health Cited

LD0304123390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1200 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Alexander Vondra, presidential adviser for foreign affairs, received the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of the Kingdom of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden in Prague Castle today. He informed them that Vaclav Havel's trip to their respective countries will not take place as originally planned and conveyed to them the president's regret at the need to postpone the visit. In view of his recent operation and the subsequent necessary convalescence, the president has been compelled to reorganize his schedule, taking into consideration his commitments within the republic and the coming elections. The participants in the meeting voiced the hope that Vaclav Havel's visit to Scandinavia will still take place this year. The exact date will be announced later.

Dienstbier Continues Diplomatic Effort in UK

Visits British Parliament

LD0304133190 Prague CTK in English 1229 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] London March 3 (CTK correspondent)—In the framework of his official visit to Great Britain, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier visited the British parliament today.

He conferred with chairman of the Foreign Committee of the House of Commons David Howell and with representatives of the interparliamentary union. He also met with a number of members of parliament, of both chambers, including leader of the opposition labour party Neil Kinnock.

Last night Jiri Dienstbier met with representatives of the organization the European Nuclear Disarmament (END) which maintained relations with the Charter 77 and Czechoslovak civil rights supporters already during the Husak and Jakes regime.

Discussions With Counterpart Douglas Hurd

LD0304201390 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Jiri Dienstbier, who is continuing his visit to Great Britain, had talks with Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd. As in yesterday's talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the two sides reemphasized the interest in a substantial improvement of bilateral Czechoslovak-British relations. A cultural agreement between Czechoslovakia and Great Britain was signed as the first concrete proof of this rapid improvement. This agreement provides for the establishment of cultural centers in the two capitals.

Apart from Douglas Hurd, Jiri Dienstbier also discussed with Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labor opposition, and with members of the British Parliament Czechoslovakia's ideas of the future security system on the European continent. In particular, they discussed the need to abolish the two military and political groupings—the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic Alliance.

Interviewed During Visit

LD0304204790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier by London correspondent Vilimek in London on 3 April—live or recorded]

[Text] Following today's talks with British politicians, Czechoslovak Foreign Affairs Minister Jiri Dienstbier granted an interview to our London correspondent:

[Vilimek] Mr. Minister, your current visit to Britain follows almost immediately after the first postwar visit of the president of the Republic, Vaclav Havel, to this country. In your opinion, what do the two visits mean for Czechoslovak-British relations?

[Dienstbier] They mean, above all, that we have normalized these relations; and that is the essential thing, because all our relations so far have been abnormal, and we have been normalizing these relations with Great Britain. I think that there is a lot of understanding on both sides, as well as a lot of willingness to make these relations as good as possible as soon as possible, and to base them on actual cooperation.

[Vilimek] Yesterday and today, you and Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Kinnock, and the members of the Foreign Committee of the Parliament talked not only about bilateral questions, but also about all- European problems. What were the results?

[Dienstbier] Well, I think we are above all getting acquainted with each other's viewpoints, we are starting a debate, because the political developments in the past few months have been ahead of not only all our international institutions, but often also ahead of our thinking, because half a year ago no one could have thought that the developments would be so rapid. So, as I say, for the time being, we are barely beginning, we are briefing each other on our respective ideas, we are confronting our viewpoints as to European security and as to the development of European integration in general.

[Vilimek] Mr. Minister, you had talks at the British Council yesterday about questions of cultural cooperation; today you and your local partner, Foreign Secretary Hurd, signed a Czechslovak- British cultural agreement. What are your comments on this?

[Dienstbier] Well, this is one of the actualizations of our mutual relations. For one thing, it will mean opening up space for individuals, for schools, for all those interested in cooperation with Britain, in studying. The British Council Center will again open in Prague, most likely at Panska Street, in the building which at one time was used by the British Council. We would like this to be organized properly, that no energy is wasted, that intensive teaching of English on the basis of modern methods might start soon, inasmuch as it is only when we know English, which today is, I would say, some sort of world esperanto; it is only when we know the language that we will be able to educate ourselves in other spheres, whether in management or the works of Shakespeare.

[Vilimek] Thank you for the interview.

Proposes European Security Commission

LD0404083690 Prague CTK in English 0650 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] London April 4 (CTK correspondent)—The establishment of a commission for security in Europe, an executive body of an all- European treaty on collective security which should be discussed and approved by the

European Security and Cooperation Conference participating states was proposed here last night by Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier.

The Czechoslovak official made this proposal when speaking in the Royal Institute of International Relations. Stressing the need for a new approach to ensuring European security, he said that the old division into blocs is heading towards its end to be replaced by new structures.

The minister recommended that in the situation when a strong Germany—in which he voiced confidence as in a democratic and truly European state—is entering the European scene, military pacts should be dissolved and entirely new guarantees of all- European security formed.

The minister pointed out that the proposal to set up a European security commission stems from the U.N. Charter spirit. He voiced the view that unlike previous attempts to conclude a collective security treaty, which he described as having rather a propaganda character, the latest Czechoslovak initiative has good prospects of success.

Leaves for Home

LD0404104790 Prague CTK in English 1000 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] London April 4 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier ended today his three-day official visit to Britain and left here for home.

He attended a press conference in the morning where he answered above all questions concerning his political talks with British representatives and further details of the proposal of the Czechoslovak government for the establishment of a security commission in Europe which would gradually replace the two existing military blocs.

Slovak Officials Receive U.S. Ambassador

LD0304174990 Prague CTK in English 1616 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 3 (CTK)—U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Shirley Temple-Black was received here today by Chairman of the Slovak National Council Rudolf Schuster and Slovak Premier Milan Cic.

In the course of the debate, the U.S. ambassador said that her current visit, the fifth during her eight-month stay in Czechoslovakia, is the most important as a U.S. consulate is to be re-opened in Bratislava in the nearest future. The consulate was opened in Bratislava as early as in 1947 but, as she stressed, it ceased working two years later at the request of the Czechoslovak authorities.

Shirley Temple-Black was interested in the political situation in Slovakia, problems linked with drafting a new constitution and in settling the nationality problems in Czechoslovakia. In this connection she pointed out that Americans had to draw a tough lesson from their history on the need for tolerance and cooperation for the welfare of the whole country.

Asked by the U.S. ambassador about a possible participation of U.S. observers in the elections, the two Slovak officials responded they saw no reasons why it would not be possible.

Carnogursky on Talks With Eagleburger

LD0304231190 Prague CTK in English 2058 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Washington April 3 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak First Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky met for talks here today with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

After the one-hour meeting, the Czechoslovak official told CTK that Mr Eagleburger was interested in the situation in Czechoslovakia before the June elections and in prospects after them.

He said that the U.S. official also showed interest as to ways of providing assistance to Czechoslovakia by the United States.

Asked about what Czechoslovakia should do for a quicker development of the two countries' relations, Jan Carnogursky said that the country had to continue its democratic process not only in the political but also in the economic spheres. The country must strive to build political and economic structures corresponding to a democratic state and provide guarantees of a serious approach towards and stability for receiving U.S. aid, Jan Carnogursky said.

Trade Minister Signs Protocol With USSR

LD0304212290 Prague CTK in English 2048 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Moscow April 3 (CTK correspondent)—Transition to payments in convertible currencies in Czechoslovak-Soviet trade was the main issue discussed during Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Andrej Barcak's visit to the USSR.

A protocol was signed at the close of his two-day talks with Soviet Minister of External Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev today.

Minister Barcak told CTK he had agreed with Minister Katushev to set up four working groups to deal with the transition to payments in convertible currencies.

The first group will concentrate on the conversion of mutual goods exchange into convertible currenty. The second on the conversion of Czechoslovak assets in trade with the USSR. The third on a banking agreement and the fourth will deal with investment projects in which Czechoslovakia participates in the USSR.

Barcak said all Czechoslovak production enterprises and foreign trade corporations will immediately start discussing concrete prices and conditions of goods deliveries for convertible currencies to the USSR and from the USSR from January 1, 1991.

The results of the work of the four groups will serve as a basis of an inter-governmental agreement, to be drawn up by May 15.

Minister Barcak said the protocol will significantly influence the work of Czechoslovak enterprises in relation to the USSR and vice versa, and added he would meet with Minister Katushev again later this month. He also said the Czechoslovak-Soviet protocol on trade and payments for this year would not be affected by any changes.

Prague Demonstrators Support Baltic Independence

LD0304203190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 3 Mar 90

[Text] A demonstration supporting just demands for the independence of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia took place today in front of the Soviet Embassy building in Prague. The demonstrators heard the petitions of the Baltic Union, the newly established Czechoslovakia-Latvian Club, and independent citizens from Prague. The petition was later handed to (Leonid Abramov), first secretary of the Soviet Embassy.

Finance Minister Defends Federal Draft Budget

AU0304134990 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 24 Mar 90 p 2

[Marta Csontosova report: "No More Cuts in the Budget After the Elections?]

[Text] Prague (From our own correspondent and CTK)—The 27th joint meeting of the CSSR Federal Assembly Chamber of People and Chamber of Nations planning and budget committees and the 32d joint meeting of the constitutional and legal affairs committees ended in Prague 23 March. With the participation of Vaclav Klaus, federal finance minister, they analyzed issues associated with our Federation's draft budget for this year. Minister Klaus stressed that there is no reason for the suspicion that further cuts in the budget will be made after the elections. He expressed the opinion that a line has been drawn in the budget between what is possible and what is impossible.

Questions asked by deputies about the surplus state budget and its anti-inflationary effect were answered by, besides the finance minister, Kvetoslava Korinkova, chairwoman of the People's Control Committee, and by representatives of the Federal Price Office and the Czechoslovak State Bank. Some deputies even voiced their uneasiness about the fact that political developments in our country are disproportionately ahead of economic ones. According to Klaus, the budget surplus is a first-rate guarantee that the wheels of inflation will not turn. He justified this by saying that a "constricted" state budget will reduce demand and this will strengthen the economy. It would be desirable, however, if reduced demand is followed by increased supply and free prices. The finance minister stressed that it is erroneous to think that economic changes should be implemented slowly. "We can talk about delay and hesitation only if there is a lack of transparency, if we cannot perceive certain areas clearly," said V. Klaus, and he cited retail prices and the abolition of some central bodies as an example.

A stormy discussion among the deputies about the state budget gives us the right to assume that a fruitful debate will follow at the Federal Assembly joint meeting. What will the deputies be talking about? This is a question for deputy Engineer Jozef Kucera, Candidate of Sciences. "From the polemics in the committees and among the deputies, we can infer that the problems will be concentrated on the following areas: whether a further reduction in defense spending would be possible and, many deputies will be asking whether the subsidies for enterprises could be increased nonetheless. Probably, the possibility of reducing state administration expenses will also be discussed, and a tendency or pressure to keep the original budget for the State Commission for Scientific-Technical and Investment Development may arise. Our committee has proposed abolishing this commission in two years. We did not agree with its budget and we have suggested that expenditure on this institution be lowered by 100 million korunas.

Government Discusses New Economic Laws

AU0304210690 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Mar 90 pp 1, 2

[CTK report: "Breaking Up the State's Monopoly on Ownership"]

[Text] Kolodeje—The Government of National Understanding held a special meeting in Kolodeje near Prague on Monday [26 March] to discus draft economic laws and draft amendments to economic laws.

The law on state enterprise, draft amendments to the revenue tax, the turnover tax, and the agricultural tax were the main topics of the discussion. Closely connected with these laws are the draft principles for the law on employment and social security and the concept for creating a manpower market in Czechoslovakia; these proposals were also put forward for discussion. Another sphere is made up of draft amendments to the law on enterprises with the participation of foreign capital, the law on economic relations with foreign countries, and the foreign-currency law. The draft law on cooperatives, the draft law on land utilization for production purposes, the draft amendment to economic arbitrage, and the plan for the Federal People's Control Committee's supervisory activity were also on Monday's agenda.

Constitutional grounds for the conversion to a market economy and the guarantees for equality among all types

of ownership are contained in the draft changes to the constitutional law on the Czechoslovak Federation. The federal organ for environmental protection, which is being set up, will also necessitate a constitutional change.

The draft law on state enterprise envisages two types of enterprises. Most often, this will involve a managerial type of state enterprise, an enterprise organized in such a way that its conversion into a joint stock company is made easier. The enterprise will be administered by a director named by the founder of the enterprise. Another enterprise organ is the small half- elected, half-appointed supervisory council which, as the case may be, has advisory or control functions.

The founder is obliged to discuss the establishment and the closure of an enterprise with the National Committee. Merging, integrating, splitting, or closing down an enterprise can happen—based on the founder's decision and after a discussion in the council—on the grounds of the governmental program for structural changes based on suggestions from the enterprises concerned or if the enterprise shows a loss in its closing balance for two years in a row. The law allows the trade unions to express their opinions on such a step.

Another type of enterprise is the state enterprise established to satisfy public interest needs, irrespective of entrepreneurial principles. Its sphere of activity is fixed, and it can count on help from the state budget. Such an enterprise is not supposed to have a supervisory council.

The draft law on enterprise also foresees a transitional period which would expire by the end of this year and which the founder can use to split mammoth enterprises into smaller ones in order to transform them step-by-step into other forms of entrepreneurial activity. The law on state enterprise will thus provide scope for breaking up the state's monopoly on ownership.

The government unanimously adopted the draft constitutional law, according to which the word "socialist" will be dropped from the republic's name just as the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council have already done.

A prospective change to the name of the republic, the common state of Czechs and Slovaks, was also discussed in both national councils. The proposals which pushed for stressing the importance of Slovakia in the federation have become an issue which is being discussed among the public at large.

Due to the fact that no common standpoint has been found, either in the national councils or among the political forces of the two republics, the Federal Government has suggested taking the first step—to drop the word "socialist" from the country's name—and, for the time being, not to deal with problems connected with the name of the state.

Constitutional Commission Meets in Prague

LD0304194190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1640 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] A working commission for preparation of the Czech constitution met in Prague today. The participants stressed the need to unite themselves with the political representation of the Slovak Republic on the future character of the federative arrangement of the common state, as well as on determining the competence of the federation vis-a-vis the Czech and Slovak Republics. The commission also agreed on the need to work out a standpoint of the main political forces on the new constitution and to increase markedly their preparatory work.

Sacher on KGB Cooperation on Terrorism, Drugs

LD0304192390 Prague CTK in English 1555 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 3 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Minister of the Interior Richard Sacher said at a press conference here today that six experts of the KGB Soviet intelligence service are working in Czechoslovakia at present and six Czechoslovak experts work in the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia will sign similar reciprocal agreements on cooperation of experts also with other states and will fight together with them against international terrorism, drug traffic and related crimes, Richard Sacher stressed.

Speaking about the main tasks of the ministry, he emphasized the necessity to speed up screenings of former Czechoslovak secrity members.

Sacher stated that the Interior Ministry is exposed to strong pressures. There are increasing demands for the release of all former State Security members.

He told newsmen that acting in accordance with the principle of collective guilt runs counter to the character of the Czechoslovak revolution. The argument that State Security had been a criminal organization and therefore all its members must be released cannot be accepted.

He said that as a minister he respects the law and acts acordingly. If the law is changed he will respect it. Dr. Sacher warned, however, that "pressure might provoke counter pressure. Excessively radical steps against the section that is actually excluded from activity can radicalize this section and thus destabilize the situation in our country".

On building a new security apparatus Minister Sacher said it would be a mistake to believe that people released 20 years ago from the security service and now returning to their jobs are experts. The situation changes to an extent that they are only well- instructed laymen.

The minister also said the ministry needed high-quality technology. He concluded an agreement with representatives of the Cocom, the Coordinating Committee for Export Control, enabling Czechoslovakia to import from

the United States necessary technology. Czechoslovakia, however, must ensure protection of these products, otherwise it would lose these advantages and would have to pay sanctions, Dr. Sacher added.

Sacher Reports Arrest of Gen Lorenc

LD0304193690 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] In the course of today's news conference with Federal Minister of the Interior Richard Sacher in Prague, we asked the following question:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Minister, will the Federal Ministry of the Interior open the archives of the fifties?

[Sacher] I think that it is necessary to open them up, because our revolution has put an end to the totalitarian regime. The totalitarian regime did not come into being in the years 1968-1969, but in the fifties. This is where the worse cases ever encountered by our history were recorded.

[Correspondent] When should this happen?

[Sacher] I think that this can be done very quickly.

[Correspondent] A number of unanswered questions concern General Lorenc. What are you able to say about him?

[Sacher] Alright, as far as General Lorenc is concerned, there is not a single day without my being questioned about it. The latest piece of news is that yesterday I visited (?Colonel) Ruzicka in custody and we discussed certain facts, and since about an hour ago General Lorenc has been in custody. [end recording]

Iron Curtain Crumbles Along West German Border

AU0304210190 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Mar 90 p 2

[CTK report: "End of Barricades"]

[Text] Domazlice—According to Colonel Zdenek Pospisil, an officer in the Border Guard Main Administration, an official order, based on a decision made by the CSSR Government, was issued on Saturday [24 March] to remove the barbed-wire barricades on our western border. In the past, Czechoslovakia constructed almost 700 km of so-called impediments laid by sappers along the borders with Austria and the FRG. The wire fences have already disappeared from the 150-km long border with Austria.

The border guards have already removed all auxiliary facilities from the borders with the FRG. Only an alarm system remains there. In the area separating the border guard units in Rozvadov and Folmava, the iron curtain has fallen down completely. By the end of June, the wires will be removed all along the border. The new type of border protection will respect the fact that leaving the republic is not a criminal act, but only a misdemeanor. The border guards' main objective will be to protect our economy, that is, to prevent smuggling and tourism outside established crossings.

Two Army Deserters Apprehended in Austria

AU0404105890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Mar 90 p 2

[CTK report: "Deserters Run Across the Line"]

[Text] On Saturday night [24 March], two soldiers undergoing basic military service attacked a company duty officer in the Mikulov unit and forced him to open the weapons store. They stole two machine-guns, including ammunition, from the stock.

On the morning of 25 March, Austrian authorities informed passport control in Mikulov that the two deserters had been apprehended on Austrian territory near the town of Drasenhofen. Arms and ammunition were taken from them and handed over to the Czechoslovak Army.

Both deserters have asked for political asylum in Austria, and that is why they were not extradited to the Czechoslovak authorities. Their future fate will be decided by the Austrian authorities.

Illegal Zirconium Imports To Be Investigated

AU0304082390 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Mar 90 p 13

[CTK report: "A Hefty Fine"]

[Excerpts] Washington (CTK)—The U.S. Department of Commerce announced on Wednesday [28 March] that the West German Degussa A. G. company will be fined $800,000 for unauthorized exports of U.S. fissionable materials to third countries, including Czechoslovakia. [passage omitted]

The United States accuses the company of exports of berylium to the FRG, India, and Great Britain and of exports of zirconium to Czechoslovakia, the DPRK, and Italy. [passage omitted] Zirconium can be used to make uranium rods for nuclear reactors.

In response to a question from CTK, the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Trade announced that it neither carries out such imports nor does it keep files on them. The Omnipol foreign trade corporation, which is usually charged with transactions of this type, announced that it will check the veracity of the U.S. Department of Commerce's assertion that between 15 September 1986 and 15 October 1987, the CSSR imported zirconium purchased from the company Degussa.

Abolition of Death Penalty Discussed

AU0304131090

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 28 March, page 3, under the headline "It Suits the 'Martyr' and Does Not Deter the Terrorist," carries a 700-word interview with Jiri Teryngel, head of the group of specialists preparing the draft amendment to the Penal Law and a prosecutor at the Prosecutor General's office, by Igor Sirota.

According to Sirota, approximately 200 murders are committed every year in Czechoslovakia; 96 percent of these are solved. The reasons given for these murders being committed are drunkenness, jealousy, emotions, and so on. There are very few premeditated murders committed in Czechoslovakia and political murders are nonexistent.

Sirota asks Teryngel if the issue surrounding the abolition of the death penalty is an incontrovertible one for him. Teryngel replies that if we look at the issue from a philosophical point of view, "murder is the absolute crime. The absolute punishment should correspond to it. However, it is impossible to determine, demonstrate, or explain the issue in this way." He adds that many people consider the death penalty to be a just punishment. He advocates, however, that in extraordinary cases of genocide, terrorism, or treason, a sentence of life imprisonment should be imposed. This is seen as a form of "social execution."

One of Sirota's questions concerns the number of executions carried out in Czechoslovakia every year. According to Teryngel, "Since the 1960's, a maximum of two or three executions have been carried out annually."

The final question concerns the method of execution. Teryngel explains that "the condemned prisoners were hanged by members of the Corrective Education Corps." He adds, "Democratically and humanely governed countries have abandoned this absolute punishment, and they have done so justifiably."

Trade Unions Reject Draft Law on Association

AU0304122990 Prague PRACE in Czech 27 Mar 90 p 1

[CTK report: "Do Not Limit the Rights of Trade Union Members"]

[Text] Prague— Yesterday Igor Pleskot, president of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions [CSKOS], sent to Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal Assembly, a statement regarding the standpoint of the CSKOS on the draft law on association of citizens which states:

The draft law introduces subordination of trade unions to the state which contradicts international agreements as well as the present legal system. Therefore, the CSKOS appeals to all deputies to reject this law with regard to trade union organizations. The CSKOS assumes that the position and existence of trade union organizations will be regulated by a special provision which will be presented to the Federal Assembly by the trade unions shortly.

Should the law be adopted in the proposed form, the state would be at variance with the stipulations in Section 1, Article 3 of the Convention No. 87 of the International Labor Office on the freedom of trade unions and defense of the right to form trade unions, according to which public organs must refrain from any action preventing a trade union from drawing up its own statutes and regulations, freely elect its representatives, organize its own affairs and activities, and define or fulfill its own program of activities. According to Section 2, Article 11 of the Convention, every member state of the International Labor Office for which this Convention holds, including the CSSR, promises to take any necessary or suitable steps in order to guarantee workers and employers their right of free association in trade unions. Enforcing the registration duty for trade unions means to interfere with the right to freely associate.

Similarly, the draft law contradicts Article 8, Section 1, Letter (c) of the International Treaty on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

Skoda Broken Up; New Independent Enterprises

AU0304084790 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 30 Mar 90 p 7

["hc"-signed report: "Giant Bids Farewell"]

[Text] Plzen—The Skoda Plzen company, which has 73,000 employees at eight enterprises in Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia, is experiencing the last few days of its existence. "On the basis of previous negotiations and a relevant government resolution, Slavomir Stracar, federal minister of metallurgy, engineering, and the electrotechnical industry, issued an important decision whereby the engineering giant is broken up into individual state enterprises effective 31 March 1990," Doctor Zdenek Levy, press secretary of Skoda Plzen, told us yesterday. "Beginning on 1 April 1990, the former giant company will turn into the following independently existing companies: Skoda State Enterprises, Plzen company; Skoda Prague; Slovak Engineering Works Tlmace; CKD Blansko; First Brno Engineering Works; Skoda Ceske Budejovice Foundry; Research Institute of Energy Equipment, Brno; and the Skodaexport foreign trade corporation."

Let us add that with its 38,000 workers, Skoda Plzen will still be the largest of these companies.

Miners Demand Changes in Health, Age Codes

LD0204171490 Prague CTK in English 1620 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 2 (CTK)—Some 2,000 miners from all over Czechoslovakia came here today to support their demands which are on the agenda of a meeting of a

health commission of the federal trade union of workers in coal mining, geology and the oil industry.

The miners' demands include reducing the age limit for retirement, reducing the upper limit for the length of miners' work underground and not permitting people under 21 to do underground work.

Federal Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Petr Miller informed miners from the balcony of the hotel where the commission is holding its meeting that he would submit to the government draft measures to reduce the age limit for miners to retire to 50 as long as they had worked altogether 25 years, and at least 10 of them in uranium mines and 15 in coal or ore mines. The measures also banned work of people under 21 underground.

Czech Minister of Health and Social Affairs Pavel Klener stated that by April 30, 1990 the ministry would issue a decree under which miners acknowledged to be threatened by occupational disease would undergo complete checkups and would be classified as suffering from occupational disease with all legal consequences.

The miners voiced mistrust of their works doctors and others examining them. Minister Miller proposed that foreign specialists be invited for medical examinations.

Schuster Quits CPCZ; Slovak Communists React

AU0304134690 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Mar 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Understanding, But Also Regret"]

[Text] The Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee Executive Committee has adopted the following standpoint on Rudolf Schuster's decision to terminate his Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] membership:

These are not easy times. Political functionaries, and Communist Party members in particular, are withstanding a trial of mental endurance. If there is someone who has undergone the most difficult tests lately, then it is Rudolf Schuster. His CPCZ membership has became an obstacle for him in his work as the Slovak National Council's chairman. Pressure for his resignation—the main reason has been his CPCZ political membership—was also directed toward his family. This is why the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee Executive Committee has accepted with understanding R. Schuster's resignation from Communist Party membership.

At the same time, the committee expressed its regret over the fact that none of the leading state functionaries originally appointed to their functions by the CPCZ has followed the example of Hans Modrow, GDR president. He managed not only to responsibly perform his state function and to remain a popular politician, but he has also found the moral strength to personally participate in the revival of his party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany—the Party of Democratic Socialism—which had chosen him as its representative as the head of government.

The Executive Committee would consider such an attitude a more honest one considering the tens of thousands of rank and file members who remain in the party just for the purpose of its revival.

Control Committee Verifying CPCZ Property

LD0304205390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] A meeting at the CSSR People's Control Committee was held in Prague today with the aim of acquiring an objective record of the property of political parties in Czechoslovakia, gained since 1948. The committee will safeguard the overall coordination of the action to verify their findings and will carry out, up to the first half of May, the verification of property at the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Central Committee. The People's Control committees of the two national republics will carry out verification of the property of other political parties according to their activities and also the verification of property of former regional and district committees of the CPCZ. Reviews of subsidies from the state budget to political parties for the past period will be carried out by the Federal Ministry of Finance which will also take part in verifying the property of the CPCZ.

Slovak National Council Debates State Budget

AU0304135990 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 31 Mar 90 pp 1,2

[Antonia Vymazalova and Frantisek Melis report: "The Budget's Anti-Inflationary Character"]

[Text] Bratislava (From our parliamentary correspondents)—Yesterday's 24th Slovak National Council [SNR] session started with the election of a new presidium member. Frantisek Slusny (Democratic Party) was selected as a presidium member by the deputies in a secret ballot. The discussion, in which Slovak Premier Milan Cic and other members took part, was chaired by Garbor Zaszlos and Jozef Sirotnak, SNR deputy chairmen.

Some 1,500 demonstrators gathered early in the morning in front of the SNR building. They strongly protested against the Federal Assembly's decision on the name of our state and against the attitude of the Slovak deputies.

Transition to a Market Economy

The SNR government-sponsored draft law on the Slovak Republic's 1990 state budget and amendments to the SNR law No. 169/1982 on the budgetary assessment of revenue and administration fees, revenue tax, and contributions to social security were presented by Michal Kovac, Slovak Republic minister of finance, prices, and wages. This issue was presented jointly with deputy Jozef

Koznar. Vladimir Lexa, Slovak Republic first deputy premier and chairman of the Slovak Commission for Planning and Scientific-Technical Development, expressed his opinion on the unfavorable development of the Slovak economy. On 12 March the Slovak Republic Government approved the Slovak Republic's 1990 state budget, said Michal Kovac. In accordance with the decision made by legislative organs last December, the management of the financial affairs of the republics and of the Federation will be guided by a temporary budget. Under reformist conditions, however, such a budgetary policy would deepen our imbalance, it would curb the transition to a market economy, and it would increase the tendency of our economy toward weakening efficiency. That is why the federal government as well as the republics' governments have decided that new 1990 draft budgets will be worked out.

During their preparation, we have adopted the standpoint—stressed Michal Kovac—that under the conditions of the transition to a market mechanism, the state budgets must reflect a number of political, economic, and social standpoints. Contrary to what was happening in the past, the budget must become one of the important tools for improving the economy and for its transformation to a market economy. We have determined two principal objectives for this year:

1. To attain the strong anti-inflationary character of the budget by slowing down, even by cutting off, budget expenses in absolute terms as well as in terms measured against the dynamics of the gross national product.

2. To develop pressure for a change in enterprises' behavior toward economical rationality and self-sufficiency by restricting the redistribution process and by reducing budgetary expenses. The achievement of this objective is of extraordinary importance not only for the materialization of principal structural changes in the entire material and technical base of the Czechoslovak economy, but also for creating a demanding economic environment and for eliminating parasitic habits, Michal Kovac stressed.

On account of what had been happening in front of the SNR building, discussions at the 24th session were interrupted. Josef Suster, chairman of the parliament, spoke from the balcony to the assembled citizens. During the interruption, an SNR presidium commission held a session composed of Jan Budaj, Boris Zala, Ivan Carnogursky, Vladimir Minac, Jozef Dubnicek, Silvester Minarovic, and Ladislav Kosta. The commission was created upon the decision of the SNR presidium extraordinary meeting, the Slovak Republic Government, and representatives of political parties, in order to work out an SNR and Slovak Republic Government declaration regarding the Federal Assembly's decision on the name of the state. The deputies accepted the declaration unanimously.

Discussion

The discussion concentrated, above all, on the report issued on 29 March apropos the situation in and the development of the Slovak Republic on this year's draft state budget. Twenty six people took part in this discussion. One of them was Peter Weiss. He said, among other things, that it was necessary to create scope for the government's activity, not to pressure the government, and to make it possible for it to work systematically. All the political parties, as well as those represented in the SNR, should help create a construtive social atmosphere. The Communist Party definitely does not want to act like a parasite on problems and to collect "points" in the election campaign by avoiding necessary changes and unpopular measures. Economic changes are inevitable, but we must realize their social impact. Today's question is: Will everyone contribute and, if yes, to what extent, or will the changes be to the detriment of some and to the benefit of others? Those groups of the population who live at the verge of the minimum subsistence level definitely should not be affected, Peter Weiss said.

Milan Cic, Slovak premier, and Stanislav Novak and Michal Kovac, government ministers, reacted to some speeches. The SNR then adopted a resolution regarding the situation in and the developemnt of the Slovak Republic and approved the draft government law on the 1990 state budget for the Slovak Republic and amendments to the SNR law No. 169/1982 on the budgetary assessment of revenue and administration fees, revenue tax, and contributions for social security.

The deputies passed two government-sponsored draft SNR laws on the establishment of the Slovak Commission for the Environment and on changes to the authority of the Slovak Republic's ministries and on the role of the National Committees in implementing some clauses in the assembly law and in the law on civil administration.

Jan Mayer, SNR deputy chairman, later delivered the final report on the results of the work of the SNR commission entrusted with investigating the circumstances of the police intervention against the gathering of believers in Bratislava on 25 March 1988. (We will publish this report next week). Further, the SNR recalled ten judges from their posts and elected professional judges to the Slovak Republic's courts. It also made note of the report on the activity of the SNR Presidium for the period 16-29 March 1990. The 24th SNR session ended with a discussion on topical questions of contemporary life.

After the SNR session finished, its presidium met and declared the validity of the bills which had passed.

Slovak Presidium Considers Several Proposals

AU0304184490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 29 Mar 90 p 2

["(KE)"-signed and CTK report: "Talking With the Other Side"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava (From our editor)—The Slovak Republic Government Presidium held a session yesterday in order to prepare for the afternoon's working talks with the chairmen of the regional national committees and district national committees in Slovakia.

The government's relocation commission has proposed to individual relocation commissions of national committees that buildings and special purpose facilities vacated by the Communist Party of Slovakia organs should be utilized for health care and social purposes, for education, for the secretariats of new political parties and movements, for the Confederation of Political Prisoners, and for the Society of Friends of the United States and so on. The Slovak Heritage Foundation will set up a Museum of Slovak Emigration in the former Lenin Museum building in Bratislava.

The government presidium has approved principles for financing parties, movements, social organizations, and clubs. Each political party and movement that registers before 8 April 1990 and which has an electoral list and at least 1,000 members will receive a non-returnable allowance of 200,000 korunas, whereas those parties that are already registered and which fulfill the above mentioned conditions can draw upon their allowances as of 29 March 1990. Parties can also apply for free assistance. The issue of subsidies for clubs has been dealt with; financial allowances will be lower than in the past and a large number of organizations will have to become self-financing. [passage omitted]

At a press briefing held yesterday in the government's office, Milan Cic stated that according to reports from representatives of national committees in regions inhabited by the Hungarian minority, ethnic relations, particularly in South Slovakia, are gradually becoming normal. However, the letter sent by the Hungarian president to V. Havel had an unfavorable effect on their development; and this was at a time when the Slovak Republic Government had already adopted appropriate measures to resolve these differences.

In his replies to journalists' questions M. Cic stated that there is no specific evidence about who has been inflaming ethnic disputes. However, certain influences from abroad are not being discounted. The Slovak government is interested in talking in the very near future with the Hungarian side about these problems. In reply to our question on whether the government is taking any specific steps to calm the disputes beginning to erupt between Czechs and Slovaks, M. Cic said that during the first half of April, joint talks should take place with the Czech Republic government in this very interest. The Federal Government will also discuss nationality issues. Clarifying mutual economic relations between the federation's two republics will be extremely important in this regard.

Ethnic Minorities Movement Established

AU0404114590 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 2 Apr 90 p 2

[CTK report: "Minorities Together"]

[Text] Bratislava—The constituent congress of a nationwide movement for ethnic minorities took place in Bratislava on 31 March. The political movement, called Coexistence, is the first social movement since 1945 to affiliate all the ethnic minorities living in our republic. Its aim is to assert their collective rights, their representation in parliament, their right to make decisions about their own affairs, and their right to work in the spirit of the resolution adopted in January 1990 in Prague by the International Federation for Human Rights on the rights of ethnic minorities. The movement wants to preserve their cultural and spiritual values and will operate in the spheres of social policy, education, culture, the use of language, and religious life based on principles of common interest in the given region.

Minority Spokesman Promotes Constitution

AU0304120690 Prague PRACE in Czech 27 Mar 90 pp 1,2

[Interview with Alexander Neszmeri, general secretary of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Czechoslovakia (Czemadok), by Renata Havranova; place and date not given: "Who Does Not Comprehend Whom?"]

[Text] [Havranova] According to the last census in 1980, 580,000 Magyar nationals live in Czechoslovakia, 540,000 of them in southern Slovakia. Recently, a lot of talking has been done on frictions between Magyars and Slovaks in this region. What is this all about, I asked Alexander Neszmeri, the general secretary of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Czechoslovakia [Czemadok].

[Neszmeri] Basically, some small groups of people—I will not say whether these are old structures or new cliques, nor do I speak of Slovaks in general—do not comprehend the meaning and the principle of the Constitutional Law No. 144 of 1968, which I could label as world-class regarding administration of rights for ethnic minorities. For instance, a memorandum issued by the citizens of Sturovo appeals to all Slovaks to stand up for the removal of all bilingual signs, instruction of Hungarian at schools in southern Slovakia, etc. I should point out that Sturovo in Nove Zamky district is a town with a Slovak majority.

[Havranova] What is actually guaranteed by the Constitutional Law?

[Neszmeri] The law provides the ethnic minorities with an opportunity to study in their native tongue, to use

their language in contact with the authorities at the place of their residence, and further, general cultural development in their own native language.

[Havranova] Do you believe that this law is not observed?

[Neszmeri] The main problem is that no executory provisions were drawn for the law No. 144 of 1968. Therefore, its interpretation by Slovaks and by Magyars is not identical. While Magyar nationals interpret the law as giving them the right to use names of cities, streets, villages, and communities in their own language and to officially address national committees, courts, etc. in their own tongue, the Slovak groups, mentioned earlier, deny them these rights and consider the demands of Magyar minorities to be nationalist and exaggerated.

[Havranova] What is the Magyar side's idea of securing national rights?

[Neszmeri] I can say for the Magyar side, at least for our organization (98,000 members—editor's note), that we consider the Law No. 144 of 1968 to be excellent. I would even go as far as to say that it can serve as a model to all countries in Central Europe. It is necessary, however, to draw up the executory provisions and, naturally, to publish them in the media.

[Havranova] Hungarian President Matyas Szuros writes in his letter to our president that, in Czechoslovakia, the justified demands of ethnic minorities are not taken into consideration. Now, Rezso Nyers, chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Party, turned to Alexander Dubcek with similar views. What do you think of that?

[Neszmeri] That is a wasted question. Magyars living in Czechoslovakia have no influence on the policies of the Hungarian Government, and we do not want such influence. We are citizens of Czechoslovakia. Here we live, work, create spiritual and material values. We are interested in the policies exercised by our government.

Moravians, Silesians Declare 'Federal State'

AU0404132590 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 2 Apr 90 p 2

[CTK report: "A Moravian-Silesian Declaration"]

[Text] Kromeriz—The first congress of the Society for Moravia and Silesia was held yesterday in Kromeriz in the historical part of the castle. The participants sent a message to the Slovak nation and to their Czech brothers. They adopted a Moravian-Silesian declaration, which states, among other things: "Today we declare the establishment of the self-administrative federal state [krajina] of Moravia and Silesia. Within the framework of the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, we delegate legislative power temporarily, until an assembly is elected, to the Czech National Council. As far as the government's executive power is concerned, in order to protect Moravian and Silesian interests and to prepare a new state system where both states have an equal position in the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, we demand that the representatives of both Moravian states be appointed as Czech Republic deputy premiers.

Democratic Union of Romanies Holds Congress

AU0404114290 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 2 Apr 90 p 2

["(MB)"-signed report: "Against Backwardness"]

[Text] An endeavor for movement unity characterized the discussions at the constituent congress of the Democratic Union of Romanies which was held in Banska Bystrica on 31 March. Almost 140 delegates made reference in their speeches to the fact that there are groups in this union which are attempting to assert their own interests. Points of view and aims were unified gradually. The union, as a voluntary cultural and social organization incorporated into the National Front, deals primarily with problems associated with the Romany way of life, education, and culture. Participants in the Democratic Union of Romanies in Slovakia constituent congress elected a 41-member committee. Dezider Olah from Zvolen was elected as its chairman.

Czech National Council Elects 40 New Judges

AU0304154490 Prague PRACE in Czech 31 Mar 90 p 1

[CTK report: "A Sword and the Very Best Scales"]

[Text] Prague—Yesterday, at the conclusion of their three-day meeting in Prague, Czech National Council [CNR] deputies elected 40 professional judges to municipal, district, and regional courts in the Czech Republic as well as to the Czech Republic Supreme Court.

Members of the Czech parliament also approved a draft government-sponsored law on the national committees' activity in implementing some of the stipulations of the law on the right to assembly and the law on civilian service.

A debate lasting several hours preceded the election of the judges. The deputies decided to vote for only 40 candidates out of the overall total of 116. The reason was that they made "only a superficial and meaningless impression in the spirit of the previous era," as deputy A. Roschova put it. After a debate and discussions in the constitutional and legal affairs committee lasting for approximately two hours, the deputies only agreed to the election of employees without tenure and rehabilitated judges. The deputies also released six judges from their posts as they are changing their professions and leaving legal practice.

D. Buresova, Czech Republic minister of justice, informed the deputies that, on account of their further reconstruction, the courts will cooperate with, among others, the Committee for the Defense of the Unjustly Persecuted, the Czechoslovak Helsinki Committee, and Charter 77.

After the 25th CNR meeting came to an end, its presidium held a session chaired by Jaroslav Safarik; the presidium declared the laws approved at the three-day session to be valid. The newly elected judges took their oath before the CNR chairman.

Czechoslovak Social Democracy Leader on Elections

LD0304192690 Prague CTK in English 1742 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 3 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Social Democracy supports the integrity of the Czechoslovak state, Jiri Horak, the Czechoslovak Social Democracy president, told a press conference today.

The Czech and Slovak social democrats' relation is one of equal partners, he added.

A single list of candidates will be presented by Czech and Slovak social democrats in the June parliamentary elections. The definitive version of the party's election programme, which has been discussed since December 1989, will be published tomorrow, Jiri Horak said.

He said that the party's programme will be based on the defense of social certainties, guarantees of democracy, European cooperation and on securing growth of the living standard. It would be premature to speak of an eventual distribution of ministerial posts, president of the Czechoslovak Social Democracy responded when asked about his intentions in case of an electoral victory.

He said that his party will be helped in the electoral struggle by the experiences and material support of e.g., the Austrian Socialist Party that will send printing paper, the British Labor Party and others.

The Czechoslovak Social Democracy is the oldest political party in the country. Founded in 1878, it was forced to merge with the Czechoslovak Communist Party in 1948 and restored its activities in November 1989. It was registered in February 1990 as a new political party in the Czech Republic and now has 12,000 members.

Civic, Social Justice Party's Martinek Interview

LD0204144990 Prague CTK in English 1410 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Banska Bystrica, central Slovakia, April 2 (CTK)—"To point out the shortcomings that continue or are arising in our society and, on the basis of a dialogue, to present respective state bodies with proposed solutions—will be one of the main tasks of the new Czechoslovak party of Civic and Social Justice," is what a member of the party's Executive Committee, Jan Martinek, told CTK.

"Our party's Executive Committee demands that our state bodies take a sensitive approach to preparing a price rise in rents, transport, services, food and other products. We draw attention to the need for careful consideration in amending salaries, pensions and family benefits, so poorer families. Pensioners, invalids and single mothers are not affected. We also consider that proper measures be taken with the opening up of the borders which is resulting in a daily loss of 50 up to 100 million crowns on sold out products," continued Mr. Martinek.

"It's necessary to lower the state's administrative costs, especially in defence and incorporate national servicemen into the production process. We also demand that all foreign economic agreements be reviewed and the ineffective ones be cancelled. The introduction of a progressive and milionaire tax on high salaries, a tax increase on the turnover in luxury goods and real wages for work actually carried out in all branches, would also help," concluded Jan Martinek.

People's Party Congress Opens Deliberations

LD0304204890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The Czechoslovak People's Party Congress met in the Palace of Culture in Prague today for its three days of deliberations. Vaclav Kelment reports.

[Begin Klement recording] The deliberations opened after 1600 with the national anthem and the Lord's Prayer. Approximately 1,000 delegates then welcomed the representatives of churches and religious societies, guests to the congress from nine countries, and representatives of compatriots from abroad. Following the elections of the working presidium and discussion of organizational matters, Dr. Josef Bartoncik, party chairman, delivered a political report on the activity of the Czechoslovak People's Party.

He briefly summarized the historical development of the party in which the revival stream marked definitive victory at the end of November. The revived Czechoslovak People's Party, as he stressed, is a Christian Party, a democratic party, an unequivocally nonsocialist party, and a conservative party. This is also how it is being represented through program proposals, submitted to the congress.

In the beginning of the deliberations, the delegates decided that the election of the party chairman, the first deputy chairman, and the central secretary will be carried out by means of a secret ballot. Late evening, the agenda will include a discussion on the submitted documents. [end recording]

CTK Notes Parties' Coalition for Elections

LD0304212190 Prague CTK in English 2027 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 3 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak People's Party, the Christian-Democratic Party and the Slovak Christian-Democratic Movement joined into an

election coalition and will stand in the June parliamentary elections with one list of candidates as a Christian and Democratic Union.

This was announced at a congress of the Czechoslovak People's Party here today by Party Chairman Josef Bartoncik. Coalition partners have agreed that in distributing the results of the elections they will follow the 2 to 1 ratio in favour of the Czechoslovak People's party.

With its decision to join the coalition, the Christian-Democratic Party changes its former electoral strategy that, according to the first regular congress on March 24, envisaged the party to stand in the elections independently or in an alliance with the Christian- Democratic Movement.

People's Party, Christian Democrats Coalition

LD0304220990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The Czechoslovak People's Party, the Christian Democratic Party and the Slovak Christian Democratic Movement have joined together in an election coalition, Czechoslovak People's Party Chairman Josef Bartoncik announced at the party's congress. The coalition will take part in the June elections with a single slate of candidates as the Christian and Democratic Union [krestanska a demokraticka unie].

'Dialogue of Friendship and Cooperation' Formed

LD0304131890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1100 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpt] A newly emerging Czechoslovak society entitled Dialogue of Friendship and Cooperation [Dialog pro Pratelstvi a Spolupract] wants to promote friendly relations with all nations in the world in the spirit of the ideological legacy of Tomas Garrigue Masaryk and Karel Capek. As a nongovernmental independent organization operating throughout the country, it will support democracy and humanism in Czechoslovakia, and, on the basis of popular diplomacy, will develop relations with foreign countries in which it will focus above all on expatriates. The new society also intends to promote the teaching of the Czech and Slovak language abroad and the English language in Czecoslovakia. [passage omitted]

Council for Humanitarian Cooperation Established

AU0404104290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Mar 90 p 2

[CTK report: "In the Spirit of Humanity"]

[Text] Prague—The objective of Monday's [26 March] roundtable meeting in Prague was to establish the Czechoslovak Council for Humanitarian Cooperation [Ceskoslovenska rada pro humanitarni spolupraci] and to transform the former Peace Fund, the CSSR National Front Solidarity Fund, and the United Fund for Armenia into the CSSR Fund for Humanitarian Cooperation. The organization has been established with the aim of providing a network for individuals and citizens who had been members of various humanitarian organizations and civic initiatives and who want to contribute to the relief of human suffering by participating in various projects in the spirit of humanitarian ideals. The council will operate in the spirit of the Constitution in areas in which the state, for various reasons, cannot take action, and it will also help the state to implement its humanitarian goals.

Parties Agree To Form Government by Easter

LD0304182290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1711 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—During the first talk between the Alliance for Germany, the League of Free Democrats and the SPD [Social Democratic Party] on a future coalition GDR Government, agreement was reached that the new government should be formed by Easter. The formation of five working groups for the clarification of further specific questions, with the inclusion of experts, was also agreed.

The DSU [Democratic Social Union] and the SPD agreed on separate talks, in which the bilateral problems of the two parties will be discussed.

The delegations were led by Lothar de Maiziere, CDU [Christian Democratic Union], Rainer Eppelmann (Democratic Awakening), Dr. Peter Diestel (DSU), Professor Dr. Rainer Ortleb (League of Free Democrats, the Liberals) and Richard Schroeder (SPD).

Kohl Criticized on Polish Border Issue

AU0204203190 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 31 Mar-1 Apr 90 p 1

[Frank Herold editorial: "1,000 km"]

[Text] A reunited Germany shares a "1,000-km border" with its neighbor Poland, FRG Chancellor Kohl stated in an interview on French television on Thursday [29 March]. One should think that during his performance in the GDR, which drew large crowds, he should have been able to familiarize himself with geographic details. He would have realized that German territory ends at the Oder and Neisse, and that this border is just over 450 km long.

Someone on the Rhine will certainly try to explain extensively that the "1,000 km" are not to be taken literally. Mrs. Thatcher can also confirm that Kohl does not really mean what he says on border issues. He told her on the telephone four days ago: "No, I do not guarantee anything. I do not recognize the borders." Immediately afterwards, hasty efforts were made in Bonn to prove the prime minister a liar.

GDR citizens are also beginning to feel the difference between what Kohl says and what he really means. Many who willingly believed the promises of the itinerant preacher are disappointed now.

There seems to be a simple solution which would finally put an end to Kohl's blunders on the border issue. There is the Treaty of Zgorzelec, concluded on 6 July 1950, which is binding under international law. How about the FRG joining this treaty, particularly at a time when there is so much talk about joining?

Stasi Activities Disclosed in PDS Order

AU0304113590 Frankfurter/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 29 Mar 90 p 4

["joeb"-signed report: "In This Way the Party of Democratic Socialism Achieves Its Goal"]

[Text] Hannover, 28 March—People's Chamber deputies and other officials from the ranks of the "former political opponents" who publicly announced that they would "not support the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] in the votings" should be discredited by the purposeful publication of documents on their collaboration with the State Security Office. In this connection, false or manipulated documents and "open letters" are to be used as well if this successfully harms the reputation of the "politicians of the opposition" and if it helps to improve the PDS' reputation. This is the contents of an internal order of the PDS Executive in East Berlin, which was adopted after the elections to the Peoples' Chamber. Party members at all levels, including the bezirk leaderships, who enjoy the full confidence of the leaders are currently being made familiar with the contents of this letter, a leading medium-level party member stated. He made this statement during a trip to the West "because the state security system is still operating, and because he does not want to endanger his family."

With this internal order, the PDS is drawing the conclusions from its "failure" in the elections to the Peoples' Chamber. According to estimates within the PDS, the PDS hoped for over one-third of all votes and was therefore disappointed about the 16.3 percent that it scored. The loss of votes for the Democratic Awakening after the publication of reports on the Stasi involvement of its Chairman Schnur gives rise to hopes among the PDS that "similar successes" can be scored among other groups. Thus, the PDS might achieve a better result in local elections, the party member pointed out. Also, the PDS is interested in slowing down the process of the formation of a government in East Berlin and in curbing efforts aimed at promoting the growing together of the two German states. In a certain sense, the PDS is taking revenge with this campaign for attacks against the "Stasi SED" [Socialist Unity Party of Germany], and it wants to furnish evidence that the entire GDR society was a "Stasi society," the PDS official stated. "It is mere hypocrisy if most people pretend to have had nothing to do with the system," he emphasized. "Only a few" succeeded in refusing to cooperate with the Stasi.

Only people who were "absolutely unambitious" or "were not at all conspicuous," or who "were on the fringe of society" remained unaffected by "40 years of state security system," the PDS politician continued. Files exist even on students. Sons used to provide information on their fathers—and the other way round. There was a file on every priest so that the authorities could arrest him any time. Most of the files contained code names "so that it could be used against anybody with a little manipulation." Stasi members also forged

documents to further their own career in the Ministry for State Security. Thus, they included statements "that date back many years, and which were never actually made. However, it is not possible to prove this today." People in the GDR know how to assess the Stasi past of the entire society. However, officials in the FRG have not the slightest idea what was really going on. Reports on new Stasi files that are constantly being discovered are taken as the truth in the FRG. The outrage that is triggered by such reports then spreads to the GDR where the feeling of insecurity is increasing. "In this way, the PDS achieves its goal," the disappointed party official stated.

The policy of the PDS can only be successful because the Stasi succeeded in keeping or getting back part of the files. Some citizens' committees apparently been infiltrated by Stasi members. "They have the key to the safe," the PDS official, who supports the proposal of the Council of Ministers for the destruction of all files, pointed out. "However, disclosures would still continue, because the matter is uncontrollable." The allegations leveled against the chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Boehme, and the chairman of the Christian Democratic Union, De Maiziere, are only the tip of an iceberg. When candidates are nominated for local elections, the Stasi activists can produce "the required documents" at will. "There exists a file on every person. The only thing that has to be done is to add a story about payment that the persons received for his information. In this way, candidates can be eliminated." This may have a double effect: The "renewed PDS" will triumph, and elections will have to be postponed because of a lack of candidates, the PDS official stressed.

Gysi Calls for Probe Into Deputies' Past

AU0304130190 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Apr 90 p 2

[Report on interview with Gregor Gysi, chairman of the Party of Democratic Socialism, by Klaus Kimmel; place and date not given: "We Do Not Shun Investigations"]

[Text] At a meeting on Saturday [31 March], the members of the PDS [Party of Democratic Socialism] People's Chamber group agreed to an examination of their files with a view to the possible involvement of PDS members in former activities of the Ministry for State Security. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND conducted the following interview with Gregor Gysi:

[Kimmel] Why didn't you wait for the general decision of the People's Chamber?

[Gysi] Because the government representatives stated that they would agree to a probe into the past of the deputies if every individual deputy agrees to it, and because we do not want to be confronted with the reproach that we shunned investigations. It is important for us to make things clear so that we will finally have a People's Chamber that is capable of acting and that can again assume political responsibility.

[Kimmel] What procedure would you suggest?

[Gysi] The group should name a person who enjoys its confidence, who, together with a church representative and an independent lawyer or public prosecutor should examine the files. A representative of the citizens' committee, the archivist, and the person concerned—if he wishes—should also be present.

[Kimmel] Last week the GDR's Social Democratic Party [SPD] called for PDS property to be returned to the state.

[Gysi] As far as I know, the statement was not made in this way. As far as the GDR is concerned, we should disclose where our property comes from, and as far as other countries are concerned, the property of the PDS should be expropriated, the SPD suggested. As far as other countries are concerned, we would be very grateful to the SPD if it could help us clarify things and to find shares that probably belonged to the old Socialist Unity Party of Germany, for example. These shares must first be found. As far as our property in the GDR is concerned, the SPD proposal is—to put it mildly—legal nonsense. We have a party law that regulates the economic activities and the financing of parties, as well as the forms of control. Every party must be subjected to these controls, and we are no exception and no special case. By the way, we placed the most important pieces of property at the disposal of others. All this was in the papers. It is nothing new.

SPD's Boehme in Seclusion After Hospital Stay

AU0404095990 Hamburg BILD in German 4 Apr 90 pp 1,4

[Report by Anja Oberhardt and Peter Brinkmann: "SPD's Boehme: The Tragedy"]

[Text] Where is Ibrahim Boehme? How sick is he? The tragedy of the former chairman of the Social Democratic Party [SPD] is taking place somewhere in self-elected solitude. Tortured by unrefuted accusations of having been a member of the State Security Service [Stasi] and afflicted with serious health problems (suicide attempt?), he has retreated into the darkness. His distrust is so great that he did not even tell close party colleagues where he is. After a brief stay in a hospital on the weekend [31 March-1 April], he has disappeared without a trace.

According to information gained by BILD, Boehme was rushed to the Westend University Hospital in Berlin-Charlottenburg last Saturday [31 March] at 0400 in the morning. He had been found unconscious in West Berlin and was taken to neurological station No. 29 on the ninth floor.

The first diagnosis: cerebral dysfunction. This may be caused, for instance, by a stroke or by an injury to the brain. He gave the doctors a list of the names of five people who were permitted to visit him. At his own request, Boehme was released on Sunday afternoon.

Over the past few days rumors have been rampant: FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE reported that Boehme had suffered serious head injuries when he attempted to commit suicide. Other circles reported that he suffers from epilepsy, he has problems with alcohol, and he is simply exhausted. One thing is sure, namely that he has had a heart condition for a long time. Nevertheless, he drinks large amounts of coffee and is a chain-smoker (50 "Club" cigarettes per day). When he thinks that no one is observing him, he swallows yellow pills.

It is also certain that Boehme is still suffering from the after-effects of the 15 months he spent in prison. Said a friend to BILD: "He was hunted and ruined by the Stasi to such a degree that he is in panic if he faces large crowds." He is constantly afraid of being beaten. No one is permitted to get physically close to him.

Over the past weeks Boehme, who grew up as an orphan attended by foster parents and in homes, has been constantly guarded by confidants—such as Gerhard Hirschfeld (West SPD). Boehme, afraid of Stasi attacks, slept in a different bed every night and constantly changed his cars.

Investigations Into Honecker, Others To Continue

LD0304143990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1241 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Contrary to some news reports, investigations into the former Socialist Unity Party [SED] general secretary and chairman of the GDR Council of State, Honecker, as well as into the former Politburo members, Mielke and Mittag, will continue. Thus the suspicion of serious abuse of trust and corruption for Honecker and Mittag, and serious abuse of trust, fraudulent exercise of office, theft, incitement to prevent the course of justice and wrongful deprivation of personal liberty for Mielke, continues to exist. The deputy GDR State Prosecutor General, Lothar Reuter, stated this today in an ADN exclusive interview. The proceedings against the former Free German Trade Union Federation head, Tisch, and ex-Christian Democratic Union Chairman, Goetting, could also be returned next week to the Supreme Court, which rejected the files a few weeks ago on account of incompleteness.

Over and above this there are further investigations into the former SED Politburo members, Stoph, Sindermann, Axen, Krolikowski, and Kleiber for abuse of trust and corruption, in which each case has different aspects. These proceedings have been concluded differently as regard the investigations. Some will be submitted for a decision, as for example in Kleiber's case. Here the state prosecutor general will decide shortly on bringing the charge.

The aim of the state prosecutor general is, as before, to bring charges against all the named persons. Reuter said that it can "only then come under review if these men are seriously ill." In every country of the world it is customary to provisionally suspend preliminary investigations in such cases, he stressed emphatically. Definitive cessations will only be possible if there is an incurable illness. He said that all proceedings are difficult to conduct because the named persons are largely refusing to cooperate. The exceptions are Kleiber and Krolikowski. In Mielke's case any interrogation—according to an appropriate medical report—could create a life-threatening situation. He is confused. Therefore he cannot be confronted with his orders, some of which have also been published, to get appropriate statements for him.

There are sufficient indications on the basis of medical opinions and reports that Honecker, Mittag, Mielke, Stoph, Sindermann, Axen and at present also Krolikowski, are sick people. On the whole a strong physical and psychological deterioration can be observed in most of them. This can also be verified to the public with relevant documentation. This fact has led to an independent medical team being asked to comment on their capability for interrogation, imprisonment, and trial. A decision to suspend the proceedings temporarily will only be considered after these reports, which will mean however that it can be continued at any time. In all these questions it is known that the judiciary has continually been moving in an area of conflict between state obligation to prosecute and humanity. Here emotions should not be determining, despite every understanding for many comments made in the country.

A further point concerns reparation or claims for compensation. The government has given the Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the State Prosecutor General's Office the task of ascertaining which claims the state budget enforces. Reuter stated that the savings accounts of the people affected were already seized in December/January with the result that they cannot dispose of their assets. This also applies to other objects whereby it is assumed that they were acquired unlawfully. However, ascertaining this will be a complicated process because the behavior of individuals on this varies greatly. Reuter mentioned that Honecker has given his lawyer a declaration of reunification about the six cars mentioned in the press. These vehicles have been placed at the disposal of the Council of Ministers.

Honecker, Wife Taken to Soviet Hospital

AU0404093690 Hamburg BILD in German 4 Apr 90 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Russians Take Honecker"]

[Text] Lobetal—Yesterday, at 1600, Erich Honecker and his wife Margot left the house of Father Holmer in Lobetal. A Soviet military convoy took the couple to a Soviet sanatorium in Mark Brandenburg. The move took place at Honecker's personal request. His state of health has continued to worsen.

Planned Exchange Rate Criticized

AU0404095390 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 2 Apr 90 p 1

[ADN/BZ report: "2:1! The Bait, Which Was Laid Out for 18 March, Is Being Removed"]

[Text] The GDR trade unions have decided to prepare for militant action against the planned 2:1 exchange rate, which was announced by the Bundesbank.

Yesterday Helga Mausch, chairwoman of the Managing Executive Committee of the Free German Trade Union Federation, made this statement to ADN. She announced protest resolutions and protest demonstrations for the next few days, through which the trade unionists would demand their rights.

The plans of FRG financial experts, which became public in Frankfurt/Main, on the introduction of a basic exchange rate of 2:1 once the East German mark is converted into the Deutsche mark, have roused a major controversy within the coalition government in Bonn and beyond.

Finance Minister Theo Waigel called it a "remarkably positive proposal," which would do justice to the interests of the GDR population. In a radio interview, FRG Chancellor Kohl reacted to this debate with insecurity, stating that the FRG Government would keep its promises. He would not comment on any details. However, at the party congress of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] of North Rhine-Westphalia he flatly denied that he had made any promises of a specific exchange rate in the GDR election campaign. Yet WELT AM SONNTAG claims to have learned from those around Kohl that the exchange recommendation of the Bundesbank Council is regarded as a "special signal."

However, the plans of the financial experts were strongly criticized by Free Democratic Party of Germany [FDP] Chairman Otto Graf Lambsdorff and FRG Foreign Minister Genscher. Lambsdorff described them as "breaking their word" to the savers in the GDR. Although he considers a general exchange rate of 1:1 to be "dangerous," Lambsdorff told WELT AM SONNTAG that savings accounts were "almost the only way of investing one's money" in the GDR.

Acting GDR Premier Hans Modrow said that this was a situation that was contradicting everything FRG Chancellor Kohl had repeatedly said in the election campaign.

The secretary general of the GDR-CDU described the Bundesbank's proposed exchange rate as "unacceptable and unbearable."

The Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] in both German states and the Greens spoke of blatant election fraud on the part of the FRG Government. In the view of acting SPD Chairman Markus Meckel, such an exchange rate would be tantamount to social cuts for the GDR citizens.

The Federation of Free Democrats of the GDR regards the decision of the Central Bank Council as unacceptable and as inconsistent with the promising announcements that were made in the run-up to the People's Chamber elections.

Numerous alarmed citizens called the headquarters of the GDR CDU in Berlin over the weekend; the citizens also spoke of "election fraud", because many GDR citizens voted for the CDU hoping for a rapid economic and monetary union and a 1:1 exchange rate.

Enterprises Seek To Lay Off Foreign Workers

LD0304152590 Hamburg DPA in German 1352 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (DPA/VWD)—Faced with rising unemployment in the GDR an increasing number of enterprises are trying to terminate employment contracts with the approximately 90,000 foreign workers. Such notice is illegal since the government agreements on the employment and training of foregn workers in the GDR continues to be valid, Almuth Berger, the aliens' representative in the acting GDR government, said on Tuesday.

These employees have work contracts which cannot be cancelled and which, as a rule, run for four to five years. A change can be brought about only through new agreements with the relevant countries it was said. According to a Labor Ministry spokesman some 150 enterprises have applied for their foreign workforce to be moved for reasons of rationalization. At present 58,400 Vietnamese, 15,100 Mozambicans, 8,000 Cubans, 6,400 Poles, as well as 1,300 Angolans and 900 Chinese are working in the GDR. In addition there are 28,900 foreigners receiving vocational training and 10,200 students.

Parties Discuss New Government, Currency Proposal

LD0304202490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1805 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—In a first talk between the Alliance for Germany, the League of Free Democrats, and the SPD [Social Democratic Party] on a future GDR coalition government, agreement was reached today that the new government should be formed by Easter. [passage omitted]

Richard Schroeder [SPD parliamentary group chairman] underlined the positive atmosphere of the talks in the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] headquarters. A basic consensus was reached in the past two exploratory talks with the CDU. They see no insuperable obstacles, although the hard part was working out the details.

Lothar de Maiziere also confirmed the coalition negotiations are taking a positive direction and said: "We are on the right path." In response to questions, he announced they had not yet discussed ministerial posts.

The spokespersons concurred in stating the joint standpoint of the negotiating partners that the Bundesbank's proposal for an exchange rate of 2:1 deviated from their own expectations. [passage omitted]

Schroeder stated the constituent parliamentary meeting will aim for a constitutional change to "free the first session of the obligation" to elect a state council. They want the introduction of the post of president and have in mind a person who does not belong to any party.

A broad range of specific issues concerning foreign, domestic, and social policy, the economy, science, and culture will be discussed in the five working groups. Experts from the FRG will also participate, it was stated in response to questions. [passage omitted]

The coalition talks continue this evening.

Initial Coalition Talks Begin in Berlin

LD0304151490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1345 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—An initial coalition talk between the Alliance parties, the Liberals, and the SPD [Social Democratic Party] began in Berlin this afternoon. The meeting, agreed only a few hours earlier, is taking place in the CDU [Christian Democratic Union] headquarters.

Democratic Awakening Chairman Rainer Eppelmann and Liberals Chairman Professor Dr. Rainer Ortleb told the press they hoped a government would be formed before Easter.

SPD Deputies Elect Schroeder Chairman

LD0304112290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1036 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin [ADN]—In Berlin today, the Social Democratic Party [SPD] People's Chamber deputies elected deputy parliamentary group leader Richard Schroeder by a large majority as their new chairman. He succeeds Ibrahim Boehme, who resigned as party and parliamentary group chairman.

Liberals Praise SPD Coalition Move Decision

LD0304123190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1033 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The Liberals are satisfied that following the SPD [Social Democratic Party] decision there will now be substantive negotiations for a broad coalition government, Wulf Oehme, the spokesman for the League of Free Democrats - the Liberals, has told ADN. "From our point of view there are no obstacles to a common policy in the interests of the citizens in peace, freedom, and prosperity. Those who voted for us are rightly demanding constructive work now." The Liberals will bear their share of responsibility for progress to a functioning market economy, for the construction of a viable social net, for democracy and the rule of law becoming characteristic features of everyday life. "We will vehemently oppose new trenches being dug here and in the whole of Germany to divide people, be it out of narrow-minded, proprietorial thinking, petty-minded election tactics, or lack of sense of reality," he stressed. "As the force of the center we will back sensible political decisions which create trust instead of confusion. In that way we will be standing by our election promises."

SPD Recommends Abolishing 7 Oct Holiday

AU0204213890 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 31 Mar 90 p 2

[ADN report: "SPD For Abolishing 7 October"]

[Text] Berlin—According to the Social Democratic Party [SPD] group in the People's Chamber, 7 October should no longer be the GDR national holiday. Klaus Terpe, deputy floor leader, stated this view following an SPD group meeting. He said that the group would file an application to this effect at the People's Chamber in due time and would recommend commemorating 9 October as Democracy Day.

Rostock DA Chairman Resigns, Switches to CDU

LD0304140490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1248 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Rostock (ADN)—Karl-Ernst Eppler, chairman of the Rostock Democratic Awakening (DA), sees the mission of the Rostock DA as being fulfilled. Effective 31 March 1990, he has resigned from the DA and switched to the Christian Democratic Union; Karl-Heinz Eppler said that other mandate-holders will follow. The Rostock DA would, however, remain in existence as a branch for the time being.

Berlin DSU Chairman Quits To Join CDU

LD0304140790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1305 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The chairman of the Berlin German Social Union [DSU], Stefan Sabottka, today announced his resignation from the party and his application for membership of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] (West). In a press statement, the cofounder of the DSU gave the "unity of the union," which he has always backed, as the reason for his step. "The DSU should never compete against its sister parties, the CDU (West) and the Christian Social Union," Sabottka said.

Maleuda To Stand for People's Chamber Presidency

LD0404090890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0742 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The joint legislative group of the Democratic Farmer's Party of Germany (DBD) and the

Democratic Women's League (DFD) has nominated DBD chairman Dr. Guenther Maleuda as their candidate for president of the newly elected People's Chamber, ADN was told today by the legislative group. Maleuda was elected president of the People's Chamber on 13 November 1989.

Request for Ban on FRG Papers Rejected

AU0304123290 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Apr 90 p 2

[ADN report: "FRG Publishing Companies Reject GDR Request"]

[Text] Bonn—The large publishing companies Bauer, Burda, Gruner, and Jahr, and Axel Springer have rejected the request by the GDR Press and Information Service to the Bonn Interior Ministry, calling for a ban on the delivery of West German newspapers and magazines to the GDR. A statement submitted to the ADN office in Bonn on Sunday [1 April] stressed that the FRG Government has been wrongly accused of not trying to make a proposal for a sales system in the GDR that would take into consideration the interests of all publishing companies. Quite the contrary is true, the statement pointed out. At the initiative of the Bonn Interior Ministry, the Federal Cartel Office has for weeks been negotiating a model for the GDR that is based on the principles of fair access to the market.

The model provides for a 25-percent participation of GDR publishing companies. In addition, the shares in the large publishing companies should be limited to 25 percent. The remaining shares should be held by publishing companies in the FRG. The publishing companies stated from the beginning that they only want to organize distribution during the initial phase, the statement points out. The infrastructure, created in this way, should then be turned as soon as possible into a system in the GDR that would allow smaller companies to sell newspapers and magazines from various publishing companies.

The dumping prices, about which the GDR Government complained, have not been triggered by the large publishing companies but by smaller and medium-sized publishing firms.

New Weekly Independent Publications Established

Current Affairs Weekly

LD0304193890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1240 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Magdeburg (ADN)—With today's publication of DIREKT, a current affairs weekly from Magdeburg, the print media in the northern part of the future state of Sachsen-Anhalt have been augmented by another newspaper. In an entertaining style, the team of mainly freelance editors will concentrate primarily on issues concerning the future state capital and the Bezirk of Magdeburg. For the price of one mark, the paper is available from news stands and supermarkets. Soon it also will be sold in the Lower Saxony area.

Beginning in May, DIREKT will be a registered publication and subscription will be possible. Including DIREKT, 20 new papers have been registered in the Magdeburg area in the last three months.

Left-Wing Weekly

LD0304191790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0959 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—After the publication of "Ich Liebe Euch Doch Alle" (But I Do Love You All), a collection of Stasi protocols, the Basis Druck publishing house wants to enrich the GDR's media scene with a new weekly to come out on Friday. THE ADVERTISER-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR POLITICS, CULTURE, AND ART [DER ANZEIGER- WOCHENZEITUNG FUER POLITIK, KULTUR, UND KUNST], with a circulation of 100,000 copies will first come out on 6 April. Editor in Chief Wolfgang Kempe assured the team of editors that they were "courageous and optimistic enough to launch a new paper even under the conditions of early capitalist competition unleashed in the GDR by West German newspaper monopolists." The aim is to make an independent, serious newspaper and to establish it as the left-wing weekly.

Branch of Amnesty International Established

AU0304130490 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Apr 90 p 3

[ADN report: "Berlin: Founding of 'AI in the GDR'"]

[Text] East Berlin—On Saturday [31 March], Amnesty International (AI) in the GDR was founded in Berlin. The association wants to contribute to the worldwide enforcement of human rights. The problem of asylum seekers provides a new sphere of work also in the GDR, it was said at the founding meeting.

AIDS Relief Group Founded in Berlin

AU0304124990 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26 Mar 90 p 3

[ADN report: "AIDS Relief Group Offers Support and Advice"]

[Text] East Berlin—An AIDS relief group was founded in the GDR on Saturday [24 March]. It proclaims itself as a self-help group that provides information and advice, and takes care of persons infected with the HIV virus and persons suffering from AIDS. It also wants to coordinate and support the work of grassroots groups and initiatives. In March the number of GDR citizens infected with the AIDS virus was 88; 71 of them are carriers of the HIV virus, and 17 persons have actually fallen sick. Eight persons have so far died from AIDS.

Members of the AIDS relief group can be contacted every Tuesday from 1900 to 2100 hours under the Berlin number 4 49 47 87.

German-Japanese Society Founded; Officers Elected

AU0304130790 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Apr 90 p 3

[ND-Luck report: "German-Japanese Society in the GDR"]

[Text] East Berlin—The German-Japanese Society in the GDR, which was founded over the weekend, considers itself to be the lively home of all those who are interested in Japan in whatever way. On the basis of regional groups all over the country, it wants to mediate and support direct contacts between families, interest groups, organizations, and institutions in the GDR and in Japan. The founding meeting elected Juergen Berndt (Humboldt University) as president of the society and Hans Modrow, acting head of government, as honorary president.

De Maziere Congratulates Kohl on Birthday

LD0304103590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0825 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In the opinion of GDR Christian Democratic Union Chairman Lothar de Maiziere, Chancellor Helmut Kohl bears great responsibility for "the unity of our German fatherland and the peaceful future of Europe." In a message of congratulations to mark the Chancellor's 60th birthday, published in Berlin today, the GDR designate head of government said Kohl is celebrating this day at a time "in which essential decisions for the unity of our German fatherland and the peaceful future of Europe are being made. As FRG chancellor, you bear great responsibility for this."

De Maiziere included in his congratulations wishes for "health and strength and personal well-being" and greeted the Chancellor "in friendly solidarity."

Horn Cited on Bratislava Summit, Lithuania

LD0404111590 Budapest MTI in English 0915 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 4 (MTI)—"We'll do our best to be present at the Czechoslovak-Polish-Hungarian summit in Bratislava on April 9, although the date isn't exactly the best for us, as vote-counting in the second round of the Hungarian parliamentary elections will be still under way at that time", said Gyula Horn, Hungarian foreign minister, in an interview carried by the Wednesday issue of NEPSZABADSAG.

Mr Horn said he had recommended Hungary's participation to the interim president of the Republic as he hoped the situation of the minorities would also feature on the agenda.

"It seems essential that a conference like this should give special coverage to the situation of the Hungarian community in Slovakia in the context of interstate cooperation," added Mr Horn.

"As you know, nationalistic tendencies have generally intensified in some neighbouring countries. The official policy, the state, and government forces should stand up to such manifestations."

The interview also touched upon the Lithuanian situation, which Mr Horn called "extremely serious and complicated".

"On the one hand, the Lithuanians have a right to autonomy, including separation. On the other, the grave internal tensions afflicting the Soviet Union should also be considered, alongside the fact that separation without taking any precautions could start a chain reaction, entailing unforseeable consequences.

"If the Soviet Union were to fall apart, the world could become destabilized. This cannot be in anyone's interest.

"Thorough negotiations are required between Moscow and Vilnius," said Mr Horn.

Electoral Official Interviewed on Second Round

LD0304131790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The second round of elections will take place during the weekend, when it will be decided who will get into parliament. Information about the elections follows. Jozsef Laszlo has interviewed Andras Hollo, executive secretary to the Constitutional Court.

[Begin recording] [Laszlo] In the second round, 25 percent of the voters must go....

[Hollo] That is so, one-fourth have to go to vote for the elections to be valid, and on this occasion a relative majority is sufficient for success. So, of the three candidates, the one who receives the most votes will get the mandate.

[Laszlo] In the extreme case, can it be imagined that somebody with nine percent of the votes...

[Hollo, interrupting] Yes, if we set up a mathematical formula for the proportions three times eight equals 24—I suppose this is what you had in mind, in this case indeed with nine percent it is possible to get to the first place on the rostrum. But I am hoping that, as the electorate demonstrated uniformly such a beautiful example of maturity in public matters, by having gone to vote in such numbers, I am convinced that in the second round this 25 percent will definitely be reached. I would say it will be higher.

[Laszlo] What could happen, if in lots of places people don't go to vote, let us say, for example, if in 100 districts there isn't an adequate turn-out?

[Hollo] Unquestionably, theoretically, we have to take into consideration the possibility that this second round in a number of places will not be valid, because the 25 percent threshold has not been reached. In this case, according to the election law, a mid-term election has to be announced. The essential point is that if the result is a certified, negative result, then the National Election Comittee must decide within a month about the date of the mid-term election. There are two numbers to remember—that the date for the election must be declared within one month, but there is another time limit: the election must take place within three months.

[Laszlo] Can it be imagined, again only mathematically, that there would not be an operational parliament if not enough people go to cast their votes?

[Hollo] We made several references to mathematics, and sharpened a bit the chances and possibilities. It is my view that we will not have any need for mathematics. I am convinced that in a few electoral districts this prediction of the need for a mid-term election could come true, but it is my firm belief, considering the results of the first rounds already, that an operational parliament will be able to start after the elections on 8 April. [end recording]

Parties' Mandate Distribution Detailed

LD0304220390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Of the two large parties who were the victors in the first round of Hungary's elections, the Hungarian Democratic Forum has gained 40 mandates and the Alliance of Free Democrats 34, on their regional lists. This was stated after the session today of the National Electoral Committee. The Independent Smallholders' Party has 16 seats, the Hungarian Socialist Party has 14, while the Federation of Young Democrats and the Christian Democratic People's Party have eight mandates each, after the first round.

Szuros, Horn Address MSZP Rally on Elections

LD0304214790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Matyas Szuros and Gyula Horn have held a Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] electoral meeting in Puespoekladany. Karoly Kazinczi reports:

[Kazinczi] The people voted for the idealistic notions of capitalism in the first round, and not for undertaking risks, said Matyas Szuros in the electoral forum. He added that within the country, lack of unity has become the rule. The danger again exists that from one extreme we will fall into the other. The parties that gained the majority of votes in the first round are fundamentally democratic, but within them there also are extremist groups, thus the second round is extremely important, said the interim president of the Republic, for without a strong left wing, real democracy cannot exist. He confirmed that the Socialist Party wants to go into opposition. If the so-called small coalition comes about, then his party will have a key role in the parliament. If it is the grand coalition, then in the end the Socialists will remain alone in the National Assembly. Gyula Horn emphasized the role played by his comrade-in-arms in the restructuring of the parliament.

The two MSZP members went on to answer questions from the voters. On the land question: There should not be return to the 1945 or even the 1947 conditions, but we should look and step ahead; perhaps this question, too, merits another referendum. In connection with the events in Romania: At this moment, it is irresponsible to stir up any kind of territorial demand against that neighboring country, but this does not have to be emphasized at every step. Everybody must be given the right to get along in the land of their birth, and the borders must be made open, according to the circumstances.

Budapest Plays Host to Interpol Conference

AU0204133090 Budapest MTI in English 1116 GMT 29 Mar 90

[Text] Budapest, 29 Mar (MTI)—Police forces from 27 member countries are being represented at the conference of the European region of Interpol, currently being held in Budapest, while representatives of the Soviet Union, which is planning to join Interpol soon, the United States, and Israel are attending as observers.

Hungary was a founding member of Interpol in 1923, left the organization in 1946 on political grounds, and later rejoined in 1981.

The Hungarian office of Interpol is in urgent need of modernisation, with 50,000 USD to be invested this year in new telexes and computers which will establish a multi-channel link with the organisation's headquarters in Lyons, France.

Membership costs the Hungarian Ministry of Home Affairs 3.4 million forints a year (52,000 USD), an investment which bore fruit last summer when a Turkish truck driver was caught in Hungary smuggling 27 kilogramms heroin, worth almost 30 million USD.

Hungarian Police are worried that Hungary may become more than just a stopover for drug-smugglers and is therefore taking measures with the help of Interpol to stop the actual sale of drugs on its territory.

Journalist Associations Call for Media Freedom

LD0304133390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Several journalist associations in the country have raised their voices in support of real press freedom. The board of the Hungarian Journalists National Association, the "Nyilvanossag" Club, the Board of Hungarian Radio, and the Board of Hungarian Television have issued a joint statement which states that while every party declares itself in favor of press freedom, not every one of them observes it. As the document emphasized, the parties frequently interpret freedom of speech and opinions as a one-sided right, applicable to them only, and attack the press itself for opinions which appear in the press different from their own. They try to assert the party interests and interfere in the work of the professionals. Therefore the fear that they are trying to convert sections of the national media as an outlet for party views is justified.

The journalist organizations therefore propose that parliament should make an order to compel the national information media, primarily the radio and television, to strive for political independence from the parties and the government of the day. The organizations propose that the new legislature should prepare an impartial solution for the selection and supervision of the management of the media. All these mentioned organizations offer their assistance and full support for any composition of a coalition government.

FRG-Based Company Takes Over County Newspapers

LD0304155990 Budapest MTI in English 1410 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 3 (MTI)—On Tuesday morning, four Hungarian county dailies were published under new headings by Axel Springer Budapest, Ltd.

All four carried a front-page letter from the editorial staff and the publishers. Saying "No, this isn't just the old paper in a new guise: the old editorial staff has issued a newly founded paper."

On Tuesday morning. The editorial staff of a further five county papers asked Axel Springer Budapest, Ltd., to take them over. Jozsef Bayer, executive manager of the Budapest-based JV [joint venture] of Axel Springer Verlag-Berlin, told the press on Tuesday.

(The German side holds a majority stake in the JV which was set up in February, 1989, to publish weeklies, illustrated periodicals and love stories. The JV started talks with the editorial staff of the county papers in January, 1990.)

So far, the county dailies were issued by publishing companies owned by the Hungarian Socialist Party (MSZP).

The Springer representatives said they had not concluded any agreement with the MSZP. The "owner" of the papers. But, they went on, they did not have to conclude any, since it is new papers they have launched.

They took over the editorial staffs of the old papers, and are using the premises and equipment of the editorial office. They did not conclude any new agreement with the printing offices, distributors or subscribers.

In reply to excited, indignant questions from Hungarian journalists, Mr Bayer said the JV had taken advantage of a legal loophole, and there were precedents in the Hungarian press for similar changes in owners and headings.

Mr Bayer said he had informed the MSZP Presidium on the takeover on April 2. The JV had not held any actual negotiations with the MSZP. The same day, Axel Springer Budapest, Ltd., notified the authorities that it had launched four new papers.

(For the time being, new papers are not subject to licensing. Launchers are only obliged to notify the appropriate authorities).

Mr Bayer said Axel Springer Budapest would be investing 40 million DM in establishing printing centers in Budapest, southern, and northern Hungary in the next 2 or 3 years.

More on New Dailies

LD0304085490 Budapest MTI in English 0730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 3 (MTI)—Three counties—Baranya, Heves and Nograd—were reported to be launching new county dailies published by Axel Springer Budapest LTD from Tuesday.

Jeno Lombosi, editor-in-chief of "DUNANTULI NAPLO", the new daily of Baranya county, had the following to tell MTI:

He left his job at Baranya County Newspaper Publisher Company on Monday, followed by the whole publishing staff except the director and the paper itself, to work for Axel Springer Budapest LTD. The new owner's condition was that the daily should not become an exclusive forum for any party or give space to extreme right or left-wing manifestations. The people changing papers were also influenced by the fear that the paper would become a compulsory servant of the policy of the winning party or parties. The new company, however, eased their worries by guaranteeing full professional freedom.

Springer held successful negotiations with county paper publishers in Heves County as well to bring out a new daily entitled "HEVES MEGYEI HIRLAP". The new owner intends to keep every employee. An important element in the agreement between the former "NEPUJSAG" and Axel Springer is a pledge by the capitalist entrepreneur to extend and develop the modern newspaper-making electronic system.

The whole editorial staff of "NOGRAD", the daily of NOGRAD County Newspaper Publishing Company, also left on Monday to sign a new contract with Springer. "NOGRAD" is to appear on Tuesday with a new heading. Jozsef Kulcsar, director of the publishing company, had immediately sent a message to notify Andras Fabriczky, head of the Hungarian Socialist Party's economic office, of the staff's collective move. He was instructed to do his best to protect the assets and hire new journalists for the old "NOGRAD'. This will be very difficult, as even before the staff left, there had been 11 vacancies at the paper. Editor-in-Chief Laszlo Sulyok said the journalists had been unanimous in launching a new paper.

Springer Denies Contract With MSZP

LD0304220490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Summary] Jozsef Orosz reports on the news conference of the West German Springer concern. The representative of the Axel Springer publishing company denies signing a contract with the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] about the takeover of four rural papers and paying for this. Jozsef Bayer, director in Hungary, said that they contacted party business executive Andras Fabriczki only on Friday. According to him, Axel Springer does nothing more than rent the editorial offices of the rural papers.

Nemeth Birthday Message to Kohl Praises Efforts

LD0204160890 Budapest MTI in English 1450 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 2 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth sent on Monday a letter of greetings to Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

In the letter, the Hungarian prime minister appreciated Kohl's activity and expressed thanks to him for his untiring work in favour of developing cooperation between our countries and his active support for democratic transformation in Hungary.

Daily Calls For Soviet-Lithuanian Dialogue

AU0304094890 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 28 Mar 90 p 1

[Dariusz Fikus editorial: "A Little Gap...."]

[Text] In his last book, a book which analyzed the subject of civil war, Pawel Jasienica, a man who had many links with Vilnius, wrote that certain forms of behavior that were the rule during the Peloponesian War in ancient Greece became the exception in modern times. "However, it would be useless to deny the proven facts that clearly show that a return to barbarianism and recourse to acts that strike against common cultural values is always possible," he wrote. We are too familiar with such examples to be able to forget them; namely, the experiences of Vietnam, Afghanistan, Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968, as well as Poland's postwar experience.

It is difficult to contradict Landsbergis, who has called the occupation of hospitals, where Lithuanians fleeing from their Soviet Army units had sought refuge, and the occupation of the Lithuanian Communist Party offices, acts of aggression.

On the one hand we have the small but brave Lithuanian people, who were forcibly incorporated into the USSR and who today, after the discredited Brezhnev doctrine and after having declared the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact as invalid, are trying to secure their independence. On the other side we have the superpower for whom the example of an independent Lithuania could prove to be contagious, a deadly illness which demands immediate isolation and localization.

Can we remain silent in this situation? I think that we owe a moral duty to our neighbor precisely for the reason that our neighbor is defenseless and helpless in the face of the might of the Soviet Union. We owe it all the more, because Gorbachev's actual policy toward Lithuania could be interpreted as a kind of Brezhnev doctrine confined to the nations that constitute the USSR. Any attempts to justify such a policy, understandable in the context of superpower policy, are morally reprehensible. Polish society should not remain silent. We cannot keep our mouths shut and seek justification for what is taking place in the difficult situation facing the Moscow reformers, whose intentions we fully understand; namely, they would like perestroyka by peaceful means, without using force, a spread-out and controlled process taking place over a period of time. This is very difficult to explain to nations.

Polish society has experienced martial law. Today that period is condemned by everyone as an evil. No good can ever arise from evil. The occupation of hospitals and the presence of tanks on the streets will not lead to anything that can be deemed worthy of respect. Lithuania is ready for its independence and it is ready to make sacrifices. Soviet power will not achieve anything except submission. Therefore, there remains nothing else but to begin dialogue and talks. Some form of agreement, some small gap must be found in this knot. However, our opinion cannot be treated as a desire to participate in a war of nerves. It is only and simply a call for conciliation and full comprehension of the arguments of both sides—small Lithuania and a large Soviet Union.

Geremek Addresses Lithuanian Parliament

AU0304104590 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 28 Mar 90 p 7

['J.K.'-signed report: "Who Gives the Orders?"]

[Text] A delegation from the Citizens Parliamentary Club, led by Bronislaw Geremek, was in Vilnius on Tuesday [27 March]. It paid a one-day visit at the invitation of the Lithuanian Parliament. PAP reports that the Lithuanian side in the talks that were held included Vytautas Landsbergis and other Sajudis leaders, among whom was Virgilius Cepaitis, as well as Premier Kazimira Prunskiene, Deputy Premier Aligirdas Brazauskas and a group of people's deputies.

The chairman of the Citizens Parliamentary Club addressed the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet in the afternoon.

B. Geremek said: "Both the Sejm and the Senate as well as the government of our state have made their position on the aspirations of the Lithuanian people, which wants its freedom, perfectly clear. We bring you our message of friendship and solidarity at what is a dramatic time for you. We also have the Polish lesson behind us: A lesson that says that a nation's aspirations cannot be crushed through the use of force. The Polish lesson is also a lesson of political dialogue; a lesson that says that one must talk and can talk, and that this is the very path that leads to the resolution of conflicts. Europe is at present watching Lithuania and waiting for a solution. It is a great test of how the USSR, which is renewing its state structures and democratizing, will manage to accept the Lithuanian people's aspirations for freedom and democracy.

"It is also a test for the Lithuanian people; a test of how patiently and wisely it will realize its just aspirations. I would like to say that what we wish to bring to Lithuania, a country with which Poland has a strong affinity and with which it is linked by a great expanse of history, is a message of solidarity with the Poles and Lithuanians who live and will live in freedom on this soil. We also believe that our message to Lithuania, to Lithuanians and to Poles, is that we are with you today."

B. Geremek speech was received by the members of the Lithuanian Parliament with lengthy applause.

Gorbachev Handling of Republics Issue Viewed

AU0404110490 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 2 Apr 90 p 5

[Michal Ksiezarczyk commentary: "Vilnius and the Others"]

[Text] Gorbachev has directed his message to the citizens of Lithuania, but he knows that the effects of his message will also be felt elsewhere. He knows full well where the growing wave of secessionist desires is leading and he is struggling to gain time in order to have a chance of convincing the other Soviet republics of the advantages of staying within the USSR.

The Soviet Union is at a crossroads. After having followed a single common road that in some circumstances proved to be beneficial and in others was the result of applied coercion by the decades-old system, it now finds itself faced by divergent aims that have few things in common.

Lithuania is the first and Gorbachev is doing his utmost to ensure that it stays that way; namely, that Lithuania is the first and it must be the last. He is attempting to close the floodgates with conciliatory words, warnings, and a display of strength. It is hard to conceive that he really believes Lithuania will remain within the Soviet Union for good. It is quite obvious that he is not thinking so much of Vilnius as of the remaining constituent parts of the Soviet Union, which to a large degree are going make their own future actions dependent on the outcome in Lithuania.

Soviets Relax Rules on Border Crossing

LD0304143590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1400 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Reporter Andrzej Goldewski report from Bialystok]

[Text] [Goldewski] At midday we reported the closing of the sole Polish- Lithuanian border crossing in Ogrodniki in Suwalki region. At 0900, the Soviet side announced that only trucks carrying goods and persons returning to their own countries had the right to cross the border. Several hours later these rules were relaxed. Colonel Zdzislaw Jakubiszyn, deputy commander of the Podlasie-Mazury Brigade of the Border Guard Troops (WOP) speaking:

[Begin Jakubiszyn recording] Some changes have occurred. The Soviet side has allowed trucks to cross the border according to the hitherto applied rules. Truck drivers do not have to have, apart from passports, any additional documents such as visas, etc. Also, scheduled and excursion [tourist] coaches are allowed, as well as individual tourists, but all these people have to have visas. Such visas can be obtained in the Embassy or in consulates of the Soviet Union on Polish territory. [end recording]

[Announcer] So, the route to Lithuania now leads through the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw or through consulates.

Border Crossing Requires 'Valid Soviet Visa'

LD0304180790 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] At 0900, the only border crossing between Poland and Lithuania at Ogrodniki has been temporarily closed by the Soviet side. Polish citizens traveling privately or as tourists who do not have valid Soviet visas will not be allowed to cross the border. Similar restrictions have been introduced by the Soviet side against its citizens.

The Polish Embassy in Moscow has received an urgent instruction from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Warsaw to obtain explanations regarding this matter. The ministry reminds that uninhibited border crossing is regulated by international agreements, which should be observed. Poland is ready to talk.

Lithuanian Representative Praises Support

LD0404055790 Warsaw PAP in English 2149 GMT 3 Apr 90

[By PAP correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz]

[Text] Washington April 3—Stasys Lozoraitis, chief diplomatic representative of new Lithuanian authorities said here today that they are ready to talk with Moscow about everything, starting from the date and procedure of taking over respective functions of a sovereign state to military bases, transit and the use of ports. However, they are not ready to discuss the very independence which is an irreversible thing.

Lozoraitis pointed to the attitude of Poland's parliament as an example to be followed.

I want to thank in public the Polish parliament for the fact that it not only expressed solidarity with the aspirations of the Lithuanian nation, but also received a delegation of Lithuanian parliament, and what is most important, that it sent its representatives to the session during which the Supreme Soviet of Lithuania adopted a declaration on the restoration of the state of Lithuania, said Lozoraitis.

Bus Routes to Vilnius To Be Suspended 9 Apr

LD0404111490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1005 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Report by Krzysztof Kurianiuk from the Polish-Lithuanian border]

[Text] Following the closing of one of the border crossings with Lithuania at Ogrodniki-Lazdijai, many uninformed Polish tourists are returning from the frontier agitated and annoyed. Let us therefore remind you that persons planning to travel to Vilnius, Kovno, or even further, but via Ogrodniki, must have a valid Soviet visa. However, no visas are required for truck drivers or persons travelling on business. Today a regular bus did admittedly leave Bialystok for Vilnius, but without any Poles, who, this time, have had to go to the Soviet

consulate for visas. International buses will be running from Bialystok to Vilnius, Grodno, and Lida only until 9 April. After that, these routes will be suspended. I wish to inform all those interested in traveling to the Soviet Union that the road crossing at Terespol is still open. Meanwhile, rail border traffic is continuing as before at the Kuznica Bialostocka crossing.

Paper in Vilnius Protests Closure Attempts

LD0304190490 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The employees of the Vilnius publishing house have decided to send a cable to President Gorbachev, protesting against the demand by the pro-Moscow minority faction of the Communist Party of Lithuania, which is calling for an end to the publishing of antisocialist and anti-Soviet press printed at the former publishing house of the CPSU Central Committee in Lithuania. That is where the only Polish daily in Lithuania, KURIER WILENSKI [The Vilnius Messenger] is printed, among others. Today the editorial team of the daily sent to President Gorbachev, President Jaruzelski, and Premier Mazowiecki a statement in which the attempt to remove the paper from the system of CPSU Central Committee publications is seen as a violation of the constitutionally guaranteed national minorities' right to printed word in their mother tongue.

Skubiszewski Seeks Treaty With Unified Germany

PM0304100490 Madrid ABC in Spanish 18 Mar 90 p 78

[Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski article: "Poland Claims its Rights"]

[Text] Polish-German reconciliation is a fait accompli. The occasional frictions that nevertheless occur are inevitable between neighbors. We must eliminate them. Reconciliation began thanks to the valiant initiatives of the church. We recall them with gratitude and we proceed from the spiritual and moral capital that they created. There is no politics without morality. The Poles welcome every example of national self-determination. We have wished it both for ourselves and for our neighbors.

The unity of the German people—both in state terms and in terms of international law—is a great event, not only for this nation: It is also important for Germany's neighbors. Including—and perhaps above all—for Poland. I hope that all Germans will remember this; if so, we will understand each other better. We greatly need good mutual understanding. I repeat what I have often said: German foreign policy will go the right way when it reflects an understanding of how important it is for Europe to have a Poland with a strong state organization, with state borders [fronteras estatales, possible misprint for fronteras estables, stable borders], and with a healthy economy—a strong Poland between Germany and former Russia, now the Soviet Union. From the end of the 18th century through World War II German policy very often did not accept this fact. We trust that unified Germany will understand the role of an independent Poland, for its own sake, for ours, and for the sake of the whole of Europe.

This is how Poland's policy with respect to Germany is viewed. We can sum it up in the following points:

—On the threshold of German unification there must be no border problems. This is why Poland proposed that the Ottawa communique broach, "among other aspects of the restoration of German unity," "matters concerning the security of neighboring countries." This phrase signifies, first, that unification must be achieved while taking account of the security—including territorial security—of other countries and, second, that the neighboring countries are entitled to participate in the discussions between the two German states and the four powers on matters relating to their own security. This is the substance of the Polish proposal concerning our participation, according to the position announced by Prime Minister Mazowiecki.

I do not believe that the initial negative German response to our desire to participate in the six countries' negotiations can be final. I believe this was a hasty response. This, because these are international discussions involving the countries concerned on the basis of their vested rights. Put another way: correct diplomacy and the rejection of a Yalta-type dictate.

Whatever separates us from Yalta facilitates good international relations and European unity. Similarly, whatever joins us with Yalta and repeats its methods destroys unity, introduces divisions, diminishes the chances of disarmament, and hinders the democratization of international relations.

I would go further and say that, in general, German unification must take place on the basis of international law and with international legal guarantees.

Ever since 1945 the German question has been an international one. A European umbrella and a stable environment are necessary. A lack of stability and excessive haste would destroy it, rather than build it.

—We propose that the six countries' talks draw up a Polish-German border treaty to confirm the existing Oder-Neisse line in the form of a peace settlement, hitherto lacking.

It now seems that Germany has lost interest in a formal agreement, though it always stressed the importance of one. This is why we propose a treaty with the unified German state.

—Poland and Germany are involved in building a single Europe. Therefore, Poland does not want to see Germany isolated. Hence our opposition to the idea of German neutrality. We want to see Germany joined to

Europe by many ties. This is why we have adopted a flexible stance on the presence of U.S. troops in Europe and Germany. Nevertheless, we trust that everyone will realize that until a new collective European security system has been agreed the strategic balance between the superpowers must be maintained. Without it, there will be no unification.

—We must build a community of bilateral interests. Actually this is already very advanced, bearing in mind all that has been achieved in Poland's relations with the two German states.

We want to maintain and develop all that has been good to date in these relations. The unified German state must take account of the complementariness of the Polish and GDR economies. This involves substantial interests on both sides of the Oder-Neisse line.

Several treaties will remain effective, including those signed during Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Warsaw visit. This visit was crucial in relations between the two countries and peoples.

A major program of activity is set out in the 14 November joint declaration of the federal chancellor and Polish prime minister. This is a task for the present and future generations. On my latest visit to Bonn we made an assessment of the past two-and-a-half months with Federal Minister H.D. Genscher. It was a positive assessment.

Poland emphasized certain spheres of cooperation that should now be approached trilaterally: by the GDR, FRG, and Poland. We also indicated both continuing and new lines of activity. I am pleased that Polish policy is active in this regard too.

As I see it, the community of interests between Poland and Germany is, and will be, an important ingredient in the international order in the Europe moving toward unification. There will be no such Europe without Polish-German cooperation. The question broached at the Cologne forum remains fully topical: What can we do together for Europe?

—Last, the fifth point in Poland's view of its policy with respect to Germany is the joint participation of Poles and Germans in building a new collective security system in Europe. These are the elements of this security that constitute the task of this year's European summit (Helsinki II):

To bring to a positive conclusion the current Vienna negotiations on conventional forces, and to start their second stage immediately afterward.

The enhancement of mutual trust.

The institutionalization of the evolution of the CSCE. This is where the plan to create a European cooperation council put forward by Prime Minister T. Mazowiecki comes in.

We recognize the European Community's role as the nucleus of European unity. We stress the great importance of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, of which we will soon be members. However, we need all-Europe structures. They also have a crucial importance in European unification.

We face the difficult task of creating treaties covering various activities and the results of the CSCE process and of the new European order. We can start by transforming into a treaty the last part of the Helsinki Final Act, which deals with the principles of our cooperation. It will be the start of a new European code. This is of considerable importance to the stability of relations. We want to proceed not from spectacular ideas but from thinking that takes account of the actual situation and political activity. We want to combine realism with a vision of the future.

This provides an outline of the German part of Poland's policy, which forms part of our systematic political outlook based on the principles of the country's independence and of its ties of interdependence both in Europe and worldwide.

Skubiszewski Calls for 'Community of Interests'

LD0304184590 Warsaw PAP in English 1415 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 3—"We must build a Polish-German community of interests," said Polish Foreign Minister Skubiszewski Monday after the government discussion on the Foreign Ministry's report on Polish foreign policy, writes the GAZETA WYBORCZA paper.

"I look at German problems with great confidence. Poland and Germany can do a lot to build a new system of security in Europe. In Chancellor Kohl's statements I see that he meets our views half-way on many questions."

The government discussed a confidence report on foreign policy for more than three hours, although only 90 minutes were planned. The Foreign Ministry will prepare a definitive version of the report on the basis of discussion in the government and Minister Skubiszewski will submit its summary to the Sejm in an expose during a debate on Polish foreign policy to be held still in April.

"As for a new European security system, one should depart from multi-lateral alliances. Poland's geostrategic location, that has impeded us so far, must act to our benefit," Skubiszewski added.

Priorities of Polish policy include a striving to set up a council for European cooperation, to be a statutory political executive body of the CSCE, the GAZETA WYBORCZA went on. The Polish proposal is convergent on many items with proposals of President Mitterrand, Minister Genscher and the new Czechoslovak Government. The talks on "associating" Poland with the

EEC both in the economic and political and social areas will also start soon, it added.

According to the paper, Poland also lays emphasis on the development of contacts in the Budapest-Prague-Warsaw triangle and expects progress to be made in this area during a meeting of the presidents, premiers and the foreign ministers of these three countries with the participation of the Austrian, Yugoslav and Italian (foreign) ministers to be held in Bratislava on April 9.

The Baltic states will be another priority direction of our policy.

According to GAZETA WYBORCZA, a discussion on the Lithuanian question took much time during Monday's debate at the Office of the Council of Ministers but the Polish stand has not changed. Requirements to recognize the Vilnius government have not yet been met and we recognize the Lithuanian right to statehood, Minister Skubiszewski said.

According to sources in the Foreign Ministry, the restructuring of relations with the USSR and basing them on equal rights, privileged character of relations with the U.S., removing barriers in Poles' contacts with the world and strengthening care over Polish citizens abroad are among other aspects of foreign policy, the Solidarity daily said.

Military Advisor on 'Polish-German Brigades'

AU0304094290 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 28 Mar 90 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Colonel Dr. M. Moraczewski, military adviser in the Chancellory of the President of the Republic of Poland, by an unidentified UNIA-PRESS reporter; place and date not given: "How About an Early-Warning System?"]

[Text] [Reporter] In his speech before the West European Union, Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski suggested the formation of Polish-German brigades in the future united Germany, which would be stationed on what is now GDR territory. How important could this be for Poland's security?

[Moraczewski] Poland's security ought to be viewed in the context of the future structure of European security which may emerge as a result of a successful conclusion of the Vienna talks and the adoption of a treaty on armed forces reductions in Europe. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that if the whole of Germany belongs to NATO, the military potential of this organization will increase. However, Poland's security requires that in the process of shaping a new balance of forces in our continent, the weight must not shift toward any side. That is why we are seeking various possible ways of guaranteeing equal security.

[Reporter] Is that also the intention behind Minister Skubiszewski's suggestion to set up Polish-German brigades?

[Moraczewski] I believe Minister Skubiszewski presented one of his own personal scenarios for solving this problem. Considering the fact that the armies of several countries of the anti-Hitler coalition are stationed on German soil, one can of course ask why there are no Polish forces there, as well as forces of other countries that fought on the side of the allies in World War II. The Polish divisions that fought in the Berlin operation were withdrawn from Germany as early as 1945.

[Reporter] Now, 45 years later, some of these forces are to return in the form of Polish-German brigades?

[Moraczewski] Personally, I think it would be better to establish a military structure of early warning and verification on the territory of the united Germany. However, such a structure would refer not just to Polish-German relations, but to the entire dimension of all-European cooperation as defined by the 1987 Stockholm agreement on inspecting and monitoring activity by land forces in peacetime. After all, Polish-German brigades might possess nothing more than a political significance that one cannot even define at the present time.

Amsterdam Conference on East Europe Ends

LD0404091790 Warsaw PAP in English 2140 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Amsterdam, April 3—The two-day global panel conference ended in Amsterdam today. The meeting, devoted to transformations in Eastern Europe, heard addresses by such politicians as Hans Modrow, Helmut Schmidt, Yasuhiro Nakasone, Hans Van Den Broek and leader of the Citizens' Parliamentary Floor group OKP Bronislaw Geremek.

"An opinion emerged at the conference that investments in Central and Eastern Europe will be a risky business in two coming years," Geremek told PAP. "There was also concern over a possibility of upsetting the present order in the Soviet Union and over consequences of this for all its neighbours," he added.

"The main message I wanted to convey was that the process of transformations in Poland is taking place in a stabilized way, that Polish democracy is at present a stable element," he said.

"As concerns economic issues, I stressed the need of the presence of Western capital in our countries. A new element has emerged here, mainly for influential businessmen, that is, that Central Europe, undergoing today democratization, must right now start being included in European economic standards.

"I did not treat the problem of borders as a problem of European security. I said that everybody who questioned the system of borders weakened the feeling of security in Europe: the Soviet Union doing this to the Lithuanian-Polish border and Chancellor Kohl doing this to the Polish western border. I also said that all borders should be of a lasting character, Geremek told PAP.

This evening, Bronislaw Geremek met with Dutch parliamentarians while in the morning he held talks with head of the Dutch diplomacy Hans Van Den Broek.

Czeslaw Kiszczak Signs Application for Interpol

LD0404084790 Warsaw PAP in English 2145 GMT 3 Apr 90

[By PAP reporter Robert Bielecki]

[Text] Paris, April 3—Poland decided to join the international criminal police organization Interpol. An appropriate application, signed by Internal Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak, has been tabled by Polish Consul General in Lyon Stanislaw Topa.

The application was presented to Interpol's secretary general Robert E. Kendall who said that the Polish application will be reviewed by the Executive Committee in June. While the final decision will be undertaken during debates of the General Assembly of Interpol to be held in Canada in September.

Poland was member and cofounder of Interpol, but during the Stalinist era Interpol was considered to be a "capitalist organization serving imperialism" and Poland withdrew from it.

Daily Analyses Polish Right, Catholic Influence

AU0304104390 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 26 Mar 90 pp 1,3

[Bogumil Luft commentary: "Will There Be A 'Catholic Party'?"]

[Text] Will Poland see the formation of a strong political force whose ideological identity is based on Catholicism, on the social teaching of the Catholic Church, and on an integrated collective base of Christian ethics and principles? Opinion on this subject remains divided.

Among the Catholics who are actively involved in public life there are those who maintain that there are no specifically Catholic political interests or any such political ideology. On the other hand, there are those who claim that Poland faces a threat of being de-Christianized and that this process should be resisted in an organized way, including the use of political means. Finally, there are those who maintain that the establishment of principles that govern social life in the state can and should be founded on Catholicism. After all, Catholicism is an essential component of our national identity and heritage. This last view has recently provoked a rising chorus of protest that warns against the danger of the "Khomeynization of Poland," as it has been called in extreme cases.

Not wishing to make any value judgments on the above proposals, fears, or theoretical objections, one should ask the question: "Is there any chance that a "Catholic party" might emerge in the near future?"

In considering this question, one should not forget that in the Polish People's Republic those people who openly admitted their adherence to the Catholic Church were treated as second-class citizens and their participation in public life was very strictly controlled. Apart from the 20-year long tolerance of the "Znak" Deputies Circle in parliament, a relationship that ended on a sharp note of conflict with the authorities, the only other three associations that were officially permitted and which accepted a working relationship with the Communist authorities were, the PAX Association, [PAX], the Christian Social Association [now the Christian Social Union, UCHS], and the Polish Catholic Social Union [PZKS].

These associations should be given credit for their achievements. They printed materials that were not carried in the party press and they published books that would not have been published by the party's publishing houses. They provided employment for a certain number of people who were regarded with suspicion elsewhere, and they were active in socially useful fields, for example, doing charitable works. From time to time, they even succeeded in making political gestures. The leader of PAX's reform wing, Ryszard Reiff, was also a member of the National Council and refused to accept the decree on martial law. A few months later, the chairman of PZKS, Janusz Zablocki, protested in the Sejm against the delegalization of "Solidarity." As a result, both lost their positions in their respective organizations.

Today, all three organizations are emphasizing their political distance from each other and in their separate ways and with varying degrees of self-confidence, they are actively seeking a formula that will enable their respective organizations to survive on the political scene. PAX is transforming itself into a center party and PZKS is trying to form an alliance with the Labor Party [SP] and the Christian National Union [ZCHN]. The UCHS is promoting itself among Christians of other denominations and wants to stem the "flood of nationalism." In the context of this growing nationalism, Kazimierz Morawski, chairman of UCHS, has called Adam Michnik "a better Catholic than most." All three groupings would jump at the chance of forming an alliance with any of the Peasant parties.

It would be difficult to argue that any of these three groupings stand a good chance of political success, despite the fact that they each claim to have a membership of 10,000 to 30,000 members, and despite the fact that each grouping has a well developed organizational structure and possesses sizable property interests which, unlike the former Polish United Workers Party, are not founded on expropriated state property. The external image of these political groupings is not shaped by the true or implied political acumen of many of their activists, or by their achievements, or even by their respective political programs which are currently being adapted to reflect the new political reality. Their negative public image is still largely influenced by the fact that they

allowed the Communists to incorporate their organizations into the structures of a totalitarian system. During the Stalinist period PAX played a key, even if an imposed, role as an instrument of Communist anti-church policy.

The situation of the SP and the ZCHN, two recently formed political parties, is rather different. The membership of these new formations is only a few thousand members. Moreover, these parties have no real financial support. However, they do have the advantage of a clean political balance sheet. After what is almost a 40-year break, the SP has been revived by its former members who were swept off the political stage in the late 1940's. Although the circles grouped around Janusz Zablocki played a significant role in the restoration of the SP, from 1976 to 1984 those circles had acted in collusion with the authorities, and therefore the new party is headed by Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki, a man who cannot be accused of any such collusion. ZCHN arose from the fusion of many groupings that had strong oppositionist traditions and its chairman, Wieslaw Chrzanowski, is a man of undoubted standing among the Catholic laity.

These two parties are distinguished by the fact that the SP is strongly accenting its links with the international Christian Democratic movements, whereas the ZCHN is stressing its continuity with Polish political thought and tradition, especially those elements that stem from the many former independence, national and conservative movements. The SP is drawing selectively from this pool of political tradition. All these strands have a common factor; namely, a center-right tradition and the desire to put forward a policy which seeks to apply Christian values throughout the whole sphere of public life. In the present political kaleidoscope, there are no other parties that propose to do this in such a systematic way.

Does this mean that one of these two parties could be the precursor of a future "Catholic party"? It is difficult to give a categorical answer, because numerous other groups such as the externally pluralist Citizens Committees, the various Peasant parties, the Democratic Party, and even the Polish Socialist Party, are all looking back to the old traditions of the National Party [SN] and other parties, and to a greater or lesser degree and in different ways, they are all are trying to incorporate Christian values and the social teachings of the Catholic Church into their own political programs. It is difficult to conceive that anyone could succeed in forming a political movement which offered a common denominator for all these diverse political currents.

Additionally, it is presently difficult to say what position the Polish Bishops will adopt. This point may prove to be very significant for Poland, but this poses a separate and highly complicated doctrinal and pastoral issue that requires separate analysis.

One thing, however, is certain. Among Polish Catholics there are many people who for a large number of years were forced onto the political and social sidelines and who would now like to introduce the principles of their Christian faith and ethics into public life. We shall increasingly begin to encounter the "Catholic point of view" on all important issues in the political life of a democratic Poland. This has particular significance today, because it is happening at a time when the Roman Catholic Church, through Pope John Paul II, is formulating many principles and views that directly concern family life, human relations, popular culture, and even economic life, with renewed vigor.

Sooner or later, this might lead to a fundamental discussion of the problem which Wieslaw Chrzanowski has indicated in RZECZPOSPOLITA; namely, that it is not possible to accept pluralism in the sphere of social ethics as this would effectively mean accepting moral relativism. Catholic ethics in society imply natural ethics and laws must be based on natural law. There are superior values that cannot be put to the vote and democracy must not be allowed to become an aim in itself.

Interior Ministry on Foreigners Buying Property

AU0304092590 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 28 Mar 90 p 2

['kana'-signed report: "Foreign Investments in Poland"]

[Text] At a news conference on Tuesday, 27 March, Colonel Marian Jasiak of the Internal Affairs Minister said that the problem of foreigners buying property in Poland is exaggerated, to say the least. He said that up to August 1988, the Ministry had required foreigners to hold a permanent residence permit before it could issue them with a license to acquire property in Poland. Sixteen people were issued with such a license in 1986, and 36 in 1987. When the residence permit requirement was lifted, the issue of licenses increased sevenfold, so that the total number of licenses issued to date is 379.

Foreigners are still mainly interested in acquiring housing and plots of land. Only 16 licenses to purchase land, totalling 133 hectares, have been issued. The firm majority of those who have applied for ministry licenses to acquire property are persons with Polish citizenship or of Polish descent. Only four people have no connection with Poland.

The situation in Silesia has reversed itself, said the Internal Affairs Ministry spokesman. Foreign trips have finished, and more and more people, especially young people, are applying for the granting or restoration of Polish citizenship.

Walesa Denies Having Quarrel With Mazowiecki

LD0204220490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1730 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Excerpts] If I had been a political player, I would not have (?attended) such meetings, because they are against me, Lech Walesa said during the meeting with farmers in Pruszcz Gdanski.

[Begin Walesa recording] I was speaking quickly and sharply on Saturday. The television showed some of it. I have the following question to put to you. Did you also have a feeling—which I also share—when watching all this on the television today, yesterday, it seems that someone wants to say that Lech Walesa had a quarrel with Premier Mazowiecki. This is what transpires from the undercurrent. Maybe I am wrong, but if I am, then I ask you if you understand it in the same way. If you understood this in this way, then I should tell you that this is a great mistake: There is no quarrel between Premier Mazowiecki and Lech Walesa. Lech Walesa has a grievance that not everything is going as it should, that it is going badly. But if I had another chance, now, at this moment, to propose a person, then I would put forward premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki. There should be no mistake. [passage omitted]

Yesterday I carelessly said—that is, I did not manage to express myself entirely well—that the shipyard has started a strike. But this was not so. The shipyard announced a manifesto—or whatever we call it—to the government, that if I am not present after the rally then there will probably be a strike. I shortened it, I took a mental short-cut, that today the shipyard would stand still. I had to ask them. Listen, no, I do not want a strike at this juncture, at this moment—that is all we do not need. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Michnik Discusses 'Democratic Movement'

LD0304123790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0908 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 3 (TANJUG)—"Democratic processes in Eastern Europe did not start with Gorbachev. The democratic movement had existed in the Soviet Union before Gorbachev, and Gorbachev would not have been possible without the democratic movement which preceded him", says ideologist of the Polish Solidarity movement and Sejm deputy Adam Michnik in an interview to the Yugoslav daily BORBA, carried in today's issue of the daily.

Michnik visited Belgrade on Saturday [31 March], where he attended the founding assembly of the democratic forum—a non-party political association of independent intellectuals, rallied round the idea and ideals of political democracy, social justice and national tolerance. About a hundred political parties, associations and movements have been founded in Yugoslavia over the past year.

Adam Michnik believes that the "National movements in Eastern Europe are a kind of degenerate answer to communism" which has "taken away from the people their identity, history, culture, memory...everything that is chauvinism is the enemy of democracy and leads to bestiality".

"The central issue of democracy in Eastern Europe does not lie in relations between left and right, but in what will become of the communists, whether they will adjust to the democratic system, or will remain the chief danger to its development", Michnik stresses.

Mazowiecki, Senators Discuss Status of Warsaw

LD0404090390 Warsaw PAP in English 2150 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 3: Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki met here today for over three hours with senators, Deputies, members of the Warsaw agreement of citizens' committees, representatives of Warsaw authorities and experts.

All sides tried to defend their concepts whether Warsaw is to be one territorial unit or a union of several or a dozen or so local units or maybe the city should be granted a special status.

The Sejm (Lower House) decided to leave the decision to the prime minister. According to the chief election commissioner, the prime minister, in order to observe the electoral time-table, has to take the final decision not later than on Thursday.

Deputy Foreign Trade Minister's Talks in Egypt

AU0304190190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1734 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Cairo ROMPRES 3/4/1990—Dr. 'Atif Sidqi, prime minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, received Mr. Ioan Emil Vasiliu, deputy minister of foreign trade of Romania.

A message was handed over on behalf of Romanian prime minister, Mr. Petre Roman, to Mr. 'Atif Sidqi who thanked for the message and conveyed Romania's prime minister wishes of happiness and good health and the Romanian people wishes of success and prosperity.

During the meeting, aspects of the bilateral economic and commercial relations, as well as their development prospects were approached.

Deputy Foreign Minister Holds Talks in PRC

AU0304191490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1828 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Beijing ROMPRES 3/4/1990—The foreign affairs minister of the People's Republic of China, Qian Qichen, received on 3 April, Mircea Mitran, Romanian deputy foreign minister.

The two sides stated their readiness to develop their relationship in all fields on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and mutual advantage. They exchanged views and information on international questions of mutual interest.

The same day, Deputy Minister Mitran discussed with the Deputy Foreign Minister Tian Zengpei.

Ex-King Michael To Spend Easter in Romania

AU0304201390 Paris AFP in English 1924 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, April 3 (AFP)—Former king Michael of Romania will spend Easter in his homeland, after more than 42 years in exile, an authoritative source said here Tuesday. The king, 68, and queen Anne are due to arrive here from Geneva on April 12. He is expected to stay in Romania for between a week and 10 days, according to the source in his entourage. The former monarch, who was forced into exile in 1947 when the communists came to power, will spend a few days in the capital before visiting various parts of the country.

The Romanian government has been informed of the visit through diplomatic channels, the source here added.

The announcement came after king Michael said in London on Monday that it was still too soon to hold a plebiscite on restoring the monarchy in Romania, since people did not "know enough" about his family. "For the last 40 years of communist rule, a propaganda campaign of disinformation has been directed against the royal family," the former ruler said during a meeting with British members of parliament.

Roman on Nationality Issue, Army Intervention

AU0204194290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1647 GMT 2 Apr 90

["Transylvania: Prime Minister Petre Roman's News Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 2/4/1990—During his March 31 news conference, Prime Minister Petre Roman approached the following issues related to the situation and events in Transylvania:

The concept of autonomy:

In point of self-administration, autonomy is a general issue. We intend to decentralize local administration throughout Romania's territory and, in this respect, local economy is perfectly acceptable in any region of this country. In the two counties with a large population of Hungarian extraction, self-administration is an immediate consequence of their action on the line local autonomy, which is granted to them as is local administration throughout Romania. This process is in full progress. Local administration cannot be decentralized all of a sudden, without considering the measures needed to make local autonomy operational. And, in this framework, it should be clearly understood that everyone—the national minorities included—is interested in this aspect. Local autonomy is rooted in a general principle promoted by the government for the decentralization of local administration throughout the Romanian territory (it is not a problem to be raised on a local plane, outside that process which covers the territory as a whole).

As for the ensurance of what a correspondent here called "linguistic autonomy," which implies among other things tuition in Hungarian—from kindergarten to the university, Prime Minister Petre Roman said: naturally, this is something that existed before. It is not something new. This problem should be understood in a more general sense and at present I must say that sensitivity is reborn and that one should never forget that history was sad for the Romanians, and it is not very remote. Over 1940-1944 the large Romanian majority population as a whole was subjected to an inhumane treatment. I do not intend to make a historical reference to that period which you know was the time of fascist-Horthy dictatorship in Hungary.

However, the Romanian population is sensitive and this is something that should be considered.

To raise this question in a global manner saying that all programmes should be endorsed at once is to raise a wall. It is like being face to face with the domino principle. This is not a way to solve problems. And, as a matter of fact, problems have started to be solved differently. And far simpler, too. Whenever a problem arises in connection with a high school, a school or a kindergarten,

attempts are made to solve it in the spirit of freedom, to grant freedoms and rights to the national minorities.

I think this is the way to give any issue a durable solution once and for all.

Asked by a Swiss journalist whether the Romanian Government was about to create a university with tuition in Hungarian, Premier Roman said: all these problems should be analysed thoroughly. To set up a university with tuition in Hungarian is something you can give us no example elsewhere in Europe. Switzerland is a federal country and you do have three communities that were the basis of a confederation. Historically speaking, Romania was only a state set on the people's unity, on a unity of culture and of language. I do not intend to go into details. A university with tuition in Romanian has its reasons that have to do with the staff requirements for various areas of activity all over the country. You must agree that we cannot train people and then give them jobs in just a particular region of the country. This would make no sense.

The point is not to make a gesture, to be demagogical. The point is to find the solutions that we think fit to the problems that may crop up in a certain area. To make such like political gesture would only revive past dissensions between the two populations.

When we have to solve such problems in a realistic spirit our obvious job is to approach them and not to create further problems. Think of what happened in Tirgu Mures where Romanian students were forced to dissociate themselves from their mates of Hungarian extraction although they had the same teachers and the same curriculum and they shared the same laboratories.

Therefore, if we took this problem as a gesture it would not reflect the real situation of the operation of an institution, and lead to nothing. Everything that represents freedom and international rights is acknowledged and applied consistently whenever it is raised in an adequate framework.

The events in Tirgu Mures:

After pointing out that President Iliescu would go to Tirgu Mures in the days to come, Mr Roman said: on March 20, when confrontations between the two communities started, there was no point in President Iliescu's going there as long as neither negotiations nor a dialogue could start between the two communities. More urgent steps had to be taken at that time to restore calm.

Then, the PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] Executive Bureau decided to form a special commission, which did a good job in our opinion in the sense that a dialogue opened between the two sides. I think the duty of any president or prime minister is to set the terms for the resolution of problems that are already well defined, and I think the time President Iliescu chose to go to Tirgu Mures is the right time.

The Romanian prime minister also referred to the intervention of the Army in Tirgu Mures: during the events prior to December 22, therefore prior to our victorious revolution, there was an attempt to use the Army against the civilian population. And in the end the Army fraternized with the people. This time it was decided that the Army should interfere only to give protection to government and party headquarters, and I can tell you that the military will never resort to force the way they do in Western countries when they receive orders from the cabinet.

When order-keeping forces intervened in Great Britain after Prime Minister Thatcher's decision to no longer grant subsidies to city councils, the Romanians said that what happened in their county was nothing as to what they saw happening there.

Everyone should understand there is a psychological component in both the Army and the police and that it cannot be ignored. I should say it is a highly important component in the course of events.

The slogan we chanted on the day of the revolution was "no violence." And in February, when 200-300 violent people tried to force their way inside the Government Headquarters the Army only protected that building. They did not prevent the demonstrators from getting in though they should have done so, all the more so as those people were armed and most of them had been drinking heavily.

We are consistent to our own position.

This psychological component existed when we asked the Army to intervene in Tirgu Mures and now we are about to establish, according to the log of the operations, how long it took the Army to intervene after we decided to bring it. We do not deny that it might have taken longer than necessary. But the only thing that could be blamed is whether the officers did indeed slow-down the intervention of their units and right now we are trying to find out the truth. If that was so, we cannot agree to it and we will hold the commanding officers who hindered a faster intervention responsible.

As for the events in the evening of March 19, the local Provisional Council, which was in touch with us, should have ensured the physical integrity of the Hungarian representatives inside the headquarters of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania, according to the orders we issued. An error was committed whether deliberately or not we do not know and the result was a violent attack on writer Andras Suto.

There came March 20 when, until 10:00 hours in the morning 15,000-16,000 ethnic Hungarians had flooded the local square. They were all armed with iron rods, rocks, Molotov cocktails and knives. By noon, 2,000-3,000 Romanians gathered in the same square. At 14:00 hours the Army was ordered to intervene and separate the two camps. But that took some time, which is only understandable. This is one of the aspects on which

underway investigations concentrate. After that, the Army effectively did their duty. There were substantial military forces there and any attempt at confrontation was prevented.

Asked who was there to profit from what happened in Tirgu Mures, Premier Roman said: this is a question we asked from the very beginning. That such a phenomenon should occur after the revolution was inconceivable to me. At that time, we were all together, we did not care to which nationality we belonged and we believed, somewhat romantically, that the revolution had cemented our unity in our common fight against the dictator. When we learned of ethnic troubles, at a time when the government had taken solid actions on the road of freedoms and rights for the minorities, we never thought that tension might breed violence.

When we saw that masses of people acted violently we wondered who was manipulating like opinions. Undoubtedly, the events there were a result of extremist actions on both sides. As for the Romanian extremists this is something that has to do with the course of the democratic process in Romania. Political instability in Romania is dangerous for the future of the political parties and of mass political organizations.

As for the actions on the ethnic Hungarians' side, I think that, to a certain extent, we have to do with the actions carried through by nationalist parties in Hungary that spoke a lot during the election campaign and that worked to revive Hungarian nationalism in Transylvania.

There is talk of a possible influence exerted by the old pro-communist forces who feel threatened with marginalization by the democratic process. This may be the truth. I hope we will have more palpable data at our disposal soon.

Roman on Ethnic Issues, 'Tension'

AU0304125790 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 3 Apr 90 p 3

[Walter H. Rueb report: "We Thought That the Revolution Would Forge Us Together"]

[Text] Premier Petre Roman is not willing to fulfill the demand of the ethnic Hungarian group for their own university in Cluj. In an interview with Western journalists Roman said, concerning the tensions between Hungary and Romania, that he had been convinced that the ethnic conflicts would be settled in a nonviolent way after the overthrow of Ceausescu's dictatorship.

The question of whether it would not have been appropriate to appear in Tirgu Mures during the dramatic days of the unrest, and to talk to the people, was answered by Romanian Premier Petre Roman in an interview with journalists from Switzerland and the FRG with the announcement that a visit by President Ion Iliescu to the Transylvanian industrial city is imminent. The head of government said: "The reestablishment of peace and the preparation of a basis for negotiations were more important than a precipitate trip to Tirgu Mures." Since its installation after the revolution, his government has done much for the Hungarian minority in Transylvania, in particular as regards its cultural identity. At the moment, a list of all the measures that are being applied in this spirit is being drawn up. Roman: "I can assure you that these measures are numerous. They will be presented in a few days."

Concerning the question of autonomy for the linguistic minorities from kindergartens to the university, Roman noted that this is nothing new and had existed in the past. With great seriousness he stated: "Sensitivities have reemerged in this field. One must not forget, however, that the course of history has been very sad for the Romanians. This has not been so far back in the past. Think of the years of 1940-44, when the majority of the Romanians were treated inhumanely by the fascist Horthy dictatorship in Hungary. The Romanians are sensitive concerning this issue; this must be taken into account."

The demand of the Hungarians for a purely Hungarian university in Cluj in Transylvania led to a minor controversy between the premier and the Swiss media representatives, after Roman had said: "Establishing a Hungarian university? You cannot give me one single example of such an institution in Europe." The Swiss pointed to their homeland, but Roman countered: "Switzerland is a confederation. There are three communities that have united. But Romania is established exclusively on the basis of one society of people, culture, and language." A university has the right to exist only if it is oriented toward economic requirements. "You must recognize that the training of cadres cannot be limited to their usability in certain parts of the country. This is useless."

Roman refuses to make at least a political gesture in favor of a minority with the establishment of a Hungarian university. Instead of acting demagogically by making gestures, problems have to be solved where they emerge: "A political gesture of this kind would only arouse discord between the two groups again."

Criticism by the Hungarian minority concerning the lack of protection by the Army despite clearly visible threats, as well as the slowness of the reaction of the Army and the government in Tirgu Mures was countered by Roman by pointing to the attitude of the Army in the decisive days of the revolution in December 1989. "At that time, it was attempted to use the Army against the civilian population," Roman said. "In the end, however, the Army fraternized with the people. We have decided that in the future the Army should intervene only if the government or the parties are under siege."

In Tirgu Mures there were delays between the order to the Army to intervene and the execution of this order. Roman said that the reasons for this are being investigated. It is certain that on the evening of 19 March some

officers braked the execution of the intervention. "We do not approve of this," Roman added. "And we will hold those to account who prevented quicker intervention."

The delay of the intervention resulted in the fact that the physical security of Hungarian representatives, who were at the seat of the Hungarian Democratic Union in the center of Tirgu Mures, could not be ensured. Roman said with regret: "At a certain moment there was an intentional or unintentional mistake during the operation. The result was violent acts committed against writer Andras Suto."

Particularly on the morning of 20 March, when 15,000 to 16,000 Hungarians flooded the biggest square in the city center of Tirgu Mures, the intentional or unintentional mistake at the military command level had a disadvantageous effect. Said Roman: "The Hungarians were armed with iron poles, stones, bottles, Molotov cocktails, and knives. When they were opposed by 2,000 to 3,000 Romanians at around noon, the Army received the order to separate the opposing camps. They were separated at around 1800. These are aspects of an investigation that is currently being made. Afterwards, however, the Army did its duty."

Asked by a journalist about who profits from the crisis before the parliamentary elections on 20 May, the premier reacted with an audible, long, and profound sigh. "We have asked ourselves this from the beginning," Roman answered finally. "I do not understand how such a phenomenon can take place, particularly after the revolution. A bit romantically, we thought that the revolution had forged us together in the struggle against the dictatorship. We were convinced that the nationalist tensions would be settled without violence. When we saw that the masses reacted with violence, we asked ourselves who is manipulating them. There is no doubt that the manipulations come from extremists on both sides. On the side of the Romanian extremists, there is certainly an aspect of developing the democratic process in Romania, which is linked with the revolution. In Romania stability is perhaps dangerous to the future of parties, of political formations with nationalist tendencies."

In view of the detrimental effect in Transylvania, Roman expresses clear criticism of the fact that during the entire election campaign the nationalist parties in Hungary talked much and did much in the spirit of irredentism and a renewal of Hungarian nationalism concerning Transylvania.

Nevertheless, he has never held Hungary responsible for the events in Romania, Petre Roman noted. It is, however, a fact that in election campaign speeches various Hungarian politicians spoke of Transylvania as former Hungarian soil. The feelings of the Romanians were hurt most intensively when on 15 March, on the occasion of a national Hungarian holiday, 10,000 Hungarians and thousands of cars streamed into Romania.

Roman stressed that he is ready to hold a dialogue with the Hungarian Government immediately and at any time. He emphasized his readiness for dialogue with the announcement that he had had a long talk with the Hungarian ambassador in Bucharest and that he had given an interview to Hungarian television. Said Roman, a bit disappointed: "However, I am still waiting for a response to my phone call to the Hungarian premier."

Envoy Urges 'Correction' in Polish News Coverage

LD0204221590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1800 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] The Romanian charge d'affaires in Warsaw alleges that it was Magyars who beat Romanians in Tirgu Mures. He issued a statement urging the Polish news agency to publish a correction to the earlier reports that appeared in the Polish papers, which did not print what he had reported. The Romanian diplomat alleged that a man lying on the ground, and who, according to him, was being beaten by Magyars—the terrible pictures of which have been seen throughout the world—was a Romanian. Observers recall that the helpless man was assaulted by persons wearing the black arm-band of the extremist organization Vatra Romaneasca in Tirgu Mures.

Iliescu Visits Timisoara, Holds Talks

AU0304191390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1500 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Mr. Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council, was a guest today in Timisoara. He laid a wreath in honor of the martyrs of the revolution, and then held talks with members of the Provisional National Unity Council of Timis County and with journalists of the local and central press.

Mr. Ion Iliescu also met with employees of some enterprises and county institutions.

Commends 'Example of Tolerance'

AU0304205490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2030 GMT 3 Apr 90

["PNUC President Visits Timis County"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 3/4/1990—PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] President Ion Iliescu visited on 3 April Timisoara, at the invitation of the Timis County PNUC, and then Lugoj at the invitation of the County NSF [National Salvation Front] branch.

The visit in Timisoara started with a moving solemnity in honour of its martyrs—a wreath-laying in Opera Square—which was continued at the Metropolitan Cathedral where Mr. Iliescu lit a candle in memory of the people who died in the revolution. Then, President Iliescu went to several economic units where he was

given a hearty welcome by the crowd that asked him to run for president in the upcoming election.

In the visited enterprises, the PNUC president talked about the present problems, and about the prospects for restructuring and decentralization, for setting the whole productive activity on the basis of efficiency and competitiveness.

Mr. Iliescu spoke about the political situation in the country which he termed tense, as a result of political passions and games that sow mistrust among people.

As concerns the minorities questions, the PNUC president said, Timisoara and Banat in general are an example of tolerance and equal cooperation among all the citizens without distinction as to nationality. But in Transylvania, the relationship between Romanians and Hungarians is an old problem whose motives run deep, and it was agitated by Hungarian extremists who demanded immediate radical solutions, and by Romanian extremists in reaction to those demands. We hope they all understand that this brings destabilization which has unpredictable consequences, he said.

In the afternoon, Mr. Iliescu attended the NSF County Council founding meeting. Just like in Timisoara, before a large audience, the PNUC president stressed that a return to dictatorship in Romania was impossible. The Romanian revolution went deep and removed a repulsive dictatorship and its ossified structures once and for all, Ion Iliescu said.

On his way to the airport, the PNUC president stopped at Slavoaca Leonida's home in Bazosu Nou whose baby girl Victoria born in Timisoara Square on 22 December he christened at the Patriarchy Church in Bucharest. It was a moving moment that drew many people.

Claims 'No Hidden Purpose'

AU0404095490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0834 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 4/4/1990—PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] President Ion Iliescu went to Timisoara at the invitation of the County PNUC, and then to Lugoj at the invitation of the Timis County NSF [National Salvation Front]. "Our visit to Timisoara has no hidden purpose. We have not come here with electoral intentions," stated Mr. Iliescu to a ROMPRES reporter. "I want to stress that I have for a long time wanted to come to Timisoara, to which I am linked by old feelings of sympathy and admiration for the people living here. We do not forget that Timisoara played a great role in the Romanian revolution which obliged me even more to come here," he added.

The visit to Timisoara started with a solemn and moving moment of paying homage to the martyrs of that town the laying of a wreath in the Opera Square and continued at the Metropolitan Cathedral where Mr. Iliescu kindled a candle in the memory of those who died on the barricades of the revolution. Next Mr. Iliescu visited several economic units where he was enthusiastically welcomed by a large number of Timisoara residents who asked his to run for president in the May elections.

In industrial and research units of the city of Timisoara, the PNUC president discussed problems that confront those enterprises, as well as questions concerning the restructuring and decentralization, the setting of the entire productive activity on the bases of efficiency and competitiveness. We will introduce the market economy to be able to join the world and European economy. But we must do it for the benefit of the Romanian economy, stated Ion Iliescu declaring for the development of those activities which turn to best account the capability of the Romanian workers and experts.

Referring to the political situation in the country, he assessed it as tense as an outcome of political passion and schemes, which sows mistrust in inter-human relations. For instance, he said, I am accused that I want to re-establish communism or a new dictatorship, that I have hidden thoughts and links with Gorbachev. In that context Mr. Iliescu stressed that his political options had made him undesirable as early as 1971. I am a democrat and a liberal, he said, I have no other goal than the good of the country and of the people.

As for the question of minorities, Mr. Iliescu stressed that Timisoara and Banat in the general were an example of tolerance and equal cooperation among all the citizens, irrespective of their nationality. But in Transylvania the problem of the relations between the Romanians and the Hungarians is older and deeply rooted, and was stirred up by the Hungarian extremists who wanted radical and immediate solutions and by Romanian extremists as a reaction to those claims. We hope that all will understand that this situation leads to destabilization with unforeseeable consequences.

Upon departure from the city Mr. Iliescu was assured by the thousands of citizens who welcomed him of their support to his running for presidency.

But democracy is democracy. As [he was] exiting from [the chemicals and petrochemicals planning institute] IPROCHIM, Mr. Iliescu was welcomed, besides the almost 2,000 residents who were demonstrating for him, by a group of 20-30 young people who expressed their disagreement with the PNUC president chanting "down with Iliescu."

In Lugoj the PNUC president attended the conference for the setting up of the county NSF Council. Thousands of residents warmly welcomed him expressing their wish that he run for Romania's presidency. "The reception you have extended to me and your wish make me pledge to do what you ask me to," Mr. Iliescu said.

In front of the crowd, Mr. Iliescu stressed that a comeback to dictatorship in Romania was impossible. The Romanian revolution was profound and it removed for good and all an odious dictatorship and its structures. Next, the speaker referred to the country's political,

economic and social situation, asking all the inhabitants of Banat to take part in the efforts of restoring, restructuring and reinvigorating the entire economic life.

On his way to the airport, the PNUC president called on the family of Slavoaca Leonida, in Bazovu Nou, whose daughter Victoria was born in the Opera Square of Timisoara on 22 December 1989 whose godfather he was when she was baptized at the Patriarchy in Bucharest.

Gypsies Sentenced for Tirgu Mures Incidents

LD0204164190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] In Tirgu Mures, the first judicial calling has taken place covering the disturbances. Our on-the-spot reporter is Peter Marvanyi:

[Marvanyi] With accelerated proceedings seven people have been sentenced, accused of disturbing the peace as a criminal gang. They are members of the local Gypsy community, who on 19 and 20 March took part in the clashes on the side of the Magyars, in defense of the Democratic Association of Magyars in Romania headquarters. Their punishment is three to five months imprisonment, or in the case of two of them, three months' reformatory and educational work to be performed at their place of work. The accused have appealed for a reduction of the sentence, the prosecutor for an increase.

The representative of the Tirgu Mures minority committee dealing with Gypsies has lodged a protest against the judgement and, according to reports, tomorrow they will also protest at the minority committee of the National Unity Council in Bucharest.

In the meantime 34 Magyars who have been held in custody up to now have been released by the authorities. Thus, the two things occurring together might stir up an ethnic storm of a nature different from those so far.

The whole thing, by the way, is also rendered odd by the fact that, according to the earlier agreement, no judgement can be passed until the government committee examining the incidents submits its own report.

Deputy Defense Minister Meets Doru Braia

AU0204202590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1709 GMT 2 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 2/4/1990—In a statement sent to ROMPRES agency, the Ministry of National Defence shows that on 2 April, Mr Doru Braia was received by a deputy minister of national defence and requested the file that the former Securitate had made against the applicant who said he had never been investigated by the Securitate was told that the ministry knew nothing about such a file. [sentence as received]

During the talk, Mr Braia was shown that during the Bucharest demonstration the previous day he had made vexing denigrating statements about the Army, its leadership, generals. Mr Braia said the basis for his words were his discussions with conscripts in units that had worked in the economy and with some officers who demonstrated in Victory Square, but he realized that his affirmations were groundless.

Andruta Ceausescu Charged With Genocide

AU0204201690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1758 GMT 2 Apr 90

["Justice: Another Trial in Bucharest"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 2/4/1990—The trial of defendant Ceausescu Andruta Nicolae, ex-lieutenant-general and former head of the Baneasa Securitate training school, started on Monday in Bucharest. He is charged with instigating unfulfilled genocide, aggravated murder, attempted murder, and failure to observe the rules in force on weapons and ammunition.

Following the orders from ex-general Vlad Iulian, chief of the State Security Department, the defendant moved on 21 December 1989 the whole school force to the centre of the capital city where anti- government demonstrations were held. He took action for the bloody repression of the demonstrators, giving orders to open fire on a crowd of demonstrators, and using his own weapon. It was established that seven persons were killed at the time and the place where the accused used his firearm on a large crowd.

During a search at the defendant's home a precision rifle was found as well as 695 import cartridges, illegally held.

In the first session, judicial action began. After the charges were read, the defendant was heard.

Family members of the seven victims were also heard as plaintiffs.

The session was adjourned until 3 April, when witnesses will testify.

Romania Applies To Join Council of Europe

AU2303090890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0500 GMT 23 Mar 90

[Text] Romania today submitted an official application for membership in the Council of Europe. A letter in this respect from the minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Sergiu Celac, was sent to Mrs. Catherine Lalumiere, secretary general of the council, and to the acting president of the Ministerial Committee Mr. (?Joao Rebeus Pinhero).

Romania To Join Eutelsat Organization

AU0304134090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1231 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 3/4/1990—Romania's application for the admittance to the European Telecommunications by Satellite Organization (Eutelsat) was approved by the organization council during a meeting held last week at its Paris headquarters, an "Eutelsat" communique announced.

Romania applied for that admittance in February in order to be able to use the European range offered by Eutelsat satellites for international telephony, to receive TV programmes of other countries. The final decision regarding Romania's adhesion will be discussed in another meeting—due in May—of the Eutelsat general assembly.

* Proclamation by Timisoara Residents

90BA0022E Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 20 Mar 90 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Proclamation of Timisoara, 11 March 1990"]

[Text] The people of Timisoara were the initiators of the Romanian Revolution.

Between 16-20 December 1990, they alone fought a fierce war against one of the most powerful and most odious repressive systems in the world. It was a bitter battle, whose true magnitude was known only us, the people of Timisoara. On the one side was the unarmed population, on the other the Securitate, the militia, the Army, and the zealous troops of party activists. But all the methods and means of repression failed before the Timisoara people's thirst for freedom and their determination to overcome. Neither the arrests, nor the physical abuse, not even the mass killings could stop them. Each bullet fired brought out on the barricades of the Revolution another hundred fighters. And we did win. On 20 December 1989 Timisoara was under the full control of the population and became a free city in the immense prison that Romania had become in those days. From that day on, all activities in the city were managed from the Opera Square stands by the Romanian Democratic Front—the representative of the Timisoara Revolution at that time. On that same day, the Army fraternized with the demonstrators, determined to be at their side to defend the victory. On 21 December, more than 100,000 voices were chanting in the Opera Square: "We are ready to die!"

A number of events that occurred in Romania, particularly after 20 January 1990, went against the ideals of the Timisoara Revolution. Those ideals were not even made known to the Romanian public by the central mass media, except partially and in a confused manner. In view of that, we, the direct participants in all the events that took place between 16-22 December 1989, see ourselves compelled to explain to the entire nation why the people of Timisoara began the revolution, for what they fought and gave their lives, and for what we are determined to continue to struggle, at any cost and against anyone, until the final victory.

1) From its very first hours, the Revolution of Timisoara was not only directed against ceausescu [lower case as published], but against communism. Throughout the days of the Revolution, people chanted hundreds of times: "Down with Communism!" In consensus with hundreds of millions of people in East Europe, we, too, demanded the immediate abolition of that totalitarian and bankrupt social system. The ideal of our Revolution was and is to return to the authentic values of democracy and European civilization.

2) All the social categories participated in the Timisoara revolution. Workers, intellectuals, clerks, students, schoolchildren, small children, and even villagers who had come to the aid of the Revolution were mowed down by bullets one next to the other in the streets of Timisoara. We are resolutely against the typically communist method of dominating by creating division among social classes and categories. The bolsheviks came to power in 1917 on the shoulders of the "class struggle" ideology, and on the same basis, after 1944, the Romanian Communist nomenklatura incited one class against the other and divided society so as to more easily subject it to its terror. We want to warn against a repetition of that sad history; we call upon the workers, intellectuals, students, peasants, and all social categories to conduct a civilized and constructive dialogue and to immediately restore the unity that reigned during the Revolution. We must recall the reality that all those social categories were oppressed by the Communist regime and none today wants to harm the others.

3) People of all ages took part in the Timisoara Revolution. Even though the youth made up the majority, it is only fair to recognize that people of all ages fought as fiercely for the cause of the Revolution. The list of victims, although incomplete, is a proof of that.

4) At the side of Romanians, Hungarians, Germans, Serbs, and members of other ethnic groups, who for centuries have been coinhabiting our city peacefully and with good relations, also gave their lives for the victory of the Revolution in Timisoara. Timisoara is a Romanian and European city, in which all the nationalities rejected and continue to reject nationalism. We want to invite all the chauvinists of Romania, regardless of whether they are Romanians, Hungarians, or Germans, to come to our city to be reeducated in a spirit of tolerance and mutual respect, the only principles that will reign in the future House of Europe.

5) As of 16 December and from the very first hours of the Revolution, one of the slogans most frequently chanted was: "We want free elections!" The idea of political pluralism was and still is one of the ideas closest to the hearts of the people of Timisoara. We are convinced that there can be no authentic, European-style democracy

without strong political parties. With the exception of extreme left or right-wing parties, all the parties are entitled to exist in the city of Timisoara. The headquarters of political parties were not attacked and laid waste in Timisoara, and none of their members was threatened, insulted, or besmirched. The members of the political parties are our fellow citizens, our work colleagues, our friends with their own political views. European democracy implies the free expression of political views, a civilized dialogue among their representatives, and local contest to win public support and thereby, the power in the state.

We would have accepted the RCP [Romanian Communist Party], too, within the system of Romanian democracy, if it had not been completely and definitively compromised by its nomenklatura and if it had not degenerated into a party of red fascism. In East European countries in which the communist parties preserved at least a modicum of decency, the society contests them as a matter of principle, but de facto tolerates them. In our country, however, the Communist Party went as far as genocide, and thereby excluded itself from society. We will not tolerate it either de facto or de jure, regardless of the name under which it will attempt to rise again.

6) After 40 years of exclusively communist education and propaganda, all Romanians have absorbed prejudices belonging to that ideology. The people are not to blame for their existence. However, having them manipulated by groups interested in the rebirth of communism and its reestablishment in power is a counterrevolutionary act. The list of slogans xeroxed and distributed on 28 January to demonstrators in the Banu Manta Square in Bucharest featured, among others, slogans that were 45 years old. One such slogan for example, was designed to represent the "historical" parties as traitors, something that is slander. On the contrary, the communist activists of 45 years ago, some of whom still hold important positions in the country's leadership, were guilty of betraying Romania and enslaving it to the USSR. They were the ones who at the time were chanting: "Stalin and the Russian people brought us freedom!" not the members of the "historical" parties. The latter opposed Romania's transformation into a Moscow satellite and some of them paid with their lives for daring to say so. We must urgently redraft a concise but correct history of the 1944-50 period and circulate it in mass editions.

7) Timisoara started the Revolution against the entire Communist regime and its entire nomenklatura, and certainly not in order to give an opportunity to a group of anticeausescu dissidents within the RCP to take over the political power. Their presence at the head of the country makes the death of our heroes senseless. We might have accepted them 10 years ago, if at the 12th party congress they had joined Constantin Pirvulescu and removed the dictatorial clan. But they didn't do so, although they had the opportunity and held important functions that gave them prerogatives. On the contrary, some of them even obeyed the dictator's order to abuse the dissident. Their cowardice in 1979 cost us another 10 years of dictatorship, which were the most bitter of this entire period, plus a painful genocide.

8) As a consequence of the above, we want to propose that the electoral law, for the first three consecutive legislatures ban from every list all former Communist activists and Securitate officers. Their presence in the political life of the country is the major source of the tensions and suspicions that currently torment the Romanian society. Until the situation has stabilized and national reconciliation has been achieved it is absolutely necessary that they remain absent from public life.

We also request that the electoral law include a special paragraph banning former Communist activists from candidating for the country's presidency. Romania's president must be one of the symbols of our separation from communism. Having been a party member is not a crime. We all know to what extent an individual's life depended on the red identity card, from having a career in one's profession to getting an apartment, and what serious consequences were involved in turning it down. However, the activists were those who abandoned their professions to serve the Communist Party and to exploit the special material advantages it offered. A man who made that choice does not have the moral qualities required of a president. We suggest that the prerogatives of that position be circumscribed, on the pattern of many civilized countries in the world. Thus, prominent men of culture and scientists without special political experience should be able to candidate for the position of president.

Along the same line, we suggest that the first term be of only two years, or the period required to consolidate the democratic institutions and clarify the ideological position of each one of the many parties that have emerged. Only then will we be in a position to make an educated choice, after each one has laid its cards down on the table.

9) Timisoara did not start the revolution for higher salaries or other material advantages. A strike would have sufficed for that. All of us are unhappy about our pay system; in Timisoara, too, there are workers who labor in extremely difficult conditions and who are very poorly paid (see, for example, the pay stubs of metal casting workers or those who work in the detergent industry), but no collective went on strike or sent representatives to negotiate exclusively material demands with the government. The majority of the people of Timisoara already know what all the economists these days are endeavoring to explain, namely that rising salaries now would automatically cause inflation, as it happened in many East European countries. And once inflation has begun, years of efforts are required to halt it. Only increases in production, i.e., in the volumes of goods on the market will permit parallel general increases in salaries. Moreover, what is now most important for Romania's scant budget is outlays to restore a

minimum level of civilization. For example, urgent investments are required in the areas of health care and sanitation.

10) Although we are in favor of Romania's rejoining Europe, we do not wish to copy Western capitalist systems, which have their own injustices and shortcomings. However, we are definitely in favor of the idea of private initiative. The economic foundation of the totalitarian regime was the omnipotence of state ownership. We will never have political pluralism without economic pluralism. Still, some voices have claimed, in a communist spirit, that private initiative is the same as "exploitation," and warned against the catastrophy of appearing to be wealthy. What is thus being exploited is the envy of the idle man and the fear of work of the former privileged employees of the communist enterprises.

A proof that the people of Timisoara are not afraid of privatization is the fact that several enterprises have already announced their intention to become joint-stock companies. However, to ensure that the shares are purchased with legitimate money, commissions should be established in each town to make inventories of the fortunes of the former privileged wielders of power, corruption, and penury. Similarly, the shares of an enterprise should first be offered to its employees.

Another idea that we view as constructive, although it is more radical, is to privatize enterprises by distributing an equal number of their shares to their employees, while the state should retain only the percentage of funds necessary to give it control. Thus all the employees would have equal chances of prosperity. And if the lazy ones lose their chance, they cannot then complain of unfairness.

11) Timisoara is determined to take seriously and utilize the principle of economic and administrative decentralization. Timis County has already suggested experimenting with a model of market economy based on its sound capacities and the competence of its experts. To more easily and rapidly attract foreign capital, especially in the form of technologies and special raw materials, and to create joint firms, we take this opportunity to request that a branch of the Foreign Trade Bank be established in Timisoara. Some of the hard currency gains of the Romanian side will go into the employees' salaries, in a percentage that will be individually negotiated with the trade union leaders. Receiving part of their pay in foreign currency will provide a good material incentive for the employees. Moreover, passports will no longer be useless documents. Another positive consequence will be that hard currency rates would drop on the free exchange market, something that will immediately bring improvements in people's living standard.

12) After the fall of the dictatorship, all the Romanians who had gone into exile were invited back to help rebuild the country. Some have already returned and others have announced their intention to do so. Unfortunately, inflamed by shadowy forces, some people have abused the returned exilees, calling them traitors and sarcastically asking them what they ate for the past 10 years. This attitude does us no honor. In the despair that took hold of us in the past 40 years there may not have been one Romanian who did not at some point think of ending this misery by taking the road of exile. Many of the Romanians who now live in distant places left after political persecutions and even years of imprisonment. It is a shame for us to abuse them now with the same words as the former Communist activists. The Romanian exilees include hundreds of eminent professors teaching at the biggest universities in the world, thousands of experts appreciated by the most prestigious Western firms, tens of thousands of skilled workers in the most advanced areas. We should be proud of them and should turn evil into good by turning the sad and painful Romanian diaspora into a rejuvenating force for Romania. Timisoara lovingly looks forward to the return of all the Romanian exilees. They are our compatriots and we need their skills, their European thinking, and even their material support more than ever. Also, Romanian culture will be whole only after it has been rejoined with the culture of the exile.

13) We disagree with establishing the date of 22 December as Romania's national day. This will only eternalize the person of the dictator, as each time we will celebrate a certain number of years since his fall. The majority of countries that linked their national day to a revolution, chose the day of the beginning of the revolutionary movement, thus glorifying the people's courage to do battle. For example: The national day of France is the 14th of July, the day when, in 1789 the great French Revolution began with the fall of the Bastille. Consequently, we demand that 16 December be established as Romania's national day. Thus, our children, grandchildren, and grand grandchildren will celebrate the people's courage to confront the oppression, rather than the fall of a criminal tyrant.

With the exception of ROMANIA LIBERA, the press, radio, and television of Bucharest have almost forgotten the Revolution of Timisoara. The only events that are commented as revolutionary are those of 21-22 December. We venerate the memory of the heroes of Bucharest, as well as those of Lugoj, Sibiu, Brasov, Tirgu Mures, Cluj, Arad, Resita, and all the other cities that had to offer martyrs to win freedom. However, we are pained and revolted by the central policy of playing down our Revolution, something that is evident in the efforts that are being made to minimize the number of people killed. We were in the streets of Timisoara during the Revolution and we know that their number was larger than the one officially announced. But we want to assure those who today are concealing the truth that we will not stop our struggle until they are brought to justice as accomplices to genocide.

This Proclamation was motivated by the need to inform the Romanian nation of the real ideals of the Revolution of Timisoara. It was a revolution of the people and by the

people, without any interference from activists and Securitate members. It was an authentic revolution, not a coup d'etat. It was definitely anticommunist, not just anticeausescu. The people of Timisoara did not die for second and third rank Communist activists to take the leadership and for one of the participants in the genocide to be appointed by them minister of the interior. Our people did not die for social and national disunity, the personality cult, mass media censorship, disinformation, telephoned and written threats, and all the other Communist methods of constraint to be further practiced in broad daylight, while we are required to remain passive in the name of social stability. This Proclamation is primarily addressed to those who received the revolution as a present and are now wondering why we are unhappy, since the dictatorship has fallen, a number of bad laws have been abrogated, and a few things have become available in the stores. Now they know why we are unhappy: That was not the ideal of the Revolution in Timisoara.

We, the authors of this Prolamation and participants in the events of 16-22 December 1989, do not view the Revolution as finished. We will continue it, peacefully but firmly. Having confronted and defeated, without anyone's help, one of the most powerful repressive systems in the world, no one and nothing can intimidate us anymore.

By Monday 11 March 1990, the following had joined in support of the Timisoara Proclamation:

—The Timisoara Society of Writers and Journalists who directly participated in the Revolution;
—The Europa Society (of Timisoara journalism students);
—The 16 December Confederation—an independent youth organization of the Timis County;
—The Democratic Union of Hungarians of Banat;
—The association "Banat Still Leading;"
—The Romanian-Hungarian Friendship Association;
—Temisz—the organization of young Hungarians of Timisoara;
—The Association of Young Journalists;
—The League of Defense of Human Rights; and
—The Municipal Council of Timisoara.

Resignation of Kosovo Officials Rumored

LD0304193190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1558 GMT 3 Mar 90

[Excerpt] Pristina, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—Rumors have been going around Pristina that the president of the Executive Council of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo Assembly would resign.

However, his resignation has not been received by the provincial Assembly, TANJUG learned officially today. However, it has been confirmed that Zejnulahu announced his resignation and that he is not going to change his mind about this.

It also has been learned that some Albanian-nationality members of the Provincial Executive Council, including Dr. Muhamed Bicaj, provincial secretary for education, science, and culture, have announced their resignations. [passage omitted]

Reports Note Situation in Kosovo

AU0304192090

[Editorial Report] Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian at 1700 GMT on 3 April carries a 13-minute bloc of news reports from various Kosovo communes out of its extended 42-minute program, in addition to a four-minute lead item dealing with a meeting of the Ramiz Sadiku Construction Enterprise workers with officials, including Rahman Morina, Presidium president of the Kosovo Provincial League of Communists [LC], to discuss their future in view of the bankruptcy proceedings affecting the enterprise. Pristina Commune LC Committee President Gani Jasari addressed the workers, but the recorded portions of his speech are unmonitorable due to very poor acoustics.

The aforementioned block of news items from various communes generally describe the situation as "gradually returning to normal," but still "grave and difficult." It appears that the majority of schools in the province are now functioning more or less normally, with some exceptions. Work in factories also appears to have normalized. The dispatches from various communes include new reports about meetings of citizens in urban and rural areas, most of which strongly condemn maltreatment of citizens by the militia. There are also a number of reports that Socialist Alliance of Working People [SAWP] branches in cities and in villages are going over en masse to the Kosovo Democratic Alliance, while official youth organizations are turning themselves into youth parliaments. Meanwhile, cases of the formal settling of blood feuds continue to be reported from various communes.

Some new cases of poisoning are also reported: In Pex, there were four new cases of pupils asking for treatment today after fainting, after 18 cases reported on 2 April. In Djakovica, 17 pupils presented themselves to local hospitals and clinics for treatment. No cases of poisnoning are reported from the other communes from which they were dispatches today.

Finally, a TANJUG-attributed report mentions rumors of the resignation of Jusuf Zejnulahu, president of the Kosovo Assembly's Executive Council, without either confirming or denying it. There is also mention of "rumors about the postponement" of a meeting of the Kosovo Executive Council "to prevent unpleasant incidents," and about the possibility that other members of the Kosovo Executive Council are contemplating resignation.

International Rights Official on Kosovo

AU0304133990 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 30 Mar 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Fabienne Lenoir, International Federation for the Rights of Man general secretary, by B. Kelmendi; place and date not given: "Kosovo Is Nervous"]

[Text] Miss Fabienne Lenoir seems very small for the amount of energy she has. During her stay in Kosovo as general secretary of the Paris-based International Federation of the Rights of Man, she seemed not to know what to do first, whether to go to Podujevo with the delegation of WHO doctors, to attend the meeting of the Pristina Council for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms, to see what was happening in the Kosovo capital on the eve of Serbia's state holiday, or to spare a few minutes for a RILINDJA journalist who was interested in her impressions of events in Kosovo.

"All right," she said. "Let's talk."

Cigarettes were offered before the conversation. Miss Lenoir refused politely. "Thank you, I can't. Kosovars smoke so much that I won't smoke for days."

[Kelmendi] Is this a sign of their nervousness?

[Lenoir] Of course. I don't know if I have ever seen such nervousness in other countries I have visited as an activist of the International Federation of the Rights of Man.

[Kelmendi] Yes, you have been in many countries. This is your first visit to Kosovo, although this is the third visit of your organization here. What are your impressions of this part of the world and Europe? In asking this question, we are of course thinking about human rights.

[Lenoir] This is indeed the third time that a delegation of International Federation of the Rights of Man members have come to Kosovo, and always with the same preoccupation, to see how far rights are respected and how far they are violated. I have read the two earlier reports of the Federation of the Rights of Man about Kosovo. I will make the third only when I return to Paris. I can say now that my report will differ from the two earlier ones. In fact, it will be much more alarming because the situation has sharply deteriorated in comparison with the past. Such a report, which is an alarming one, will be sent to the governments of countries that have diplomatic and economic relations with Yugoslavia. The assumption of

authority by Serbia in many fields of social activity, or rather in the most delicate spheres, and the disbanding of the Albanian police and their dismissal from duty are further testimonies to the fact that human rights are being violated here in a systematic fashion and that such violations are even organized by the state.

[Kelmendi] Very well, but are you, too, not exceeding your authority with your interest in this field?

[Lenoir] Not at all. The illegitimate assumption of authority also enters into the sphere of the protection, or rather the violation, of human rights. The state may excuse this step with the famous formula, "territorial peril." But such states lose the characteristics of democracy. As far as I know, Yugoslavia has always accepted democratic challenges.

[Kelmendi] Let us leave this and return to our area of interest. Foe example, do you recall any specific case of the violation of human rights from your stay in Kosovo?

[Lenoir] It is difficult to "differentiate," as politicians here say, one's impressions of the multitude of cases of the violation of human rights that I think are taking place in Kosovo. However, two cases moved me extremely: the murder of Fadil Talla when he was working in front of his own house in Podujevo, and the suicide of Enver Ramadani from Gnjilane after he was released from police investigation.

What surprised me most of all during my stay in Kosovo was the unlimited power of the police. All right, you can say that the police maintain order and the public peace, but to punish people who are not at all guilty, or only on police testimony, is an absurdity that a law-governed state with any idea of democracy cannot tolerate. What I would call a series of trials is taking place in Kosovo, in which people are sentenced to 15-60 days imprisonment, merely because they have raised two fingers, have whistled at an armored car, or have asked for democracy. When one adds to these cases the political show trials, such as that at Titova Mitrovica, which is known to the world, one cannot in any way fail to call them an anachronism that shows Yugoslavia in a poor light. The United Nations has passed a resolution on such groundless trials, mounted without evidence, and this resolution provides for more than verbal sanctions. Yugoslavia too has ratified this resolution, because it is an active member of the United Nations.

[Kelmendi] You have spoken with representatives of different national groups. Who is most threatened in Kosovo?

[Lenoir] You see, the Serbian side is threatened too. The fact that the way of protecting them from this danger has limited Albanian rights is another matter. I have not spoken with any such Serbs, but I trust my Helsinki colleagues who said that they have come across cases in which the rights of Serbs have been violated. However, one thing must be borne in mind, at least in my view: The rights of Serbs have been violated by the occasional member of the Albanian nationality precisely because of the violation of the collective rights of the Albanians.

[Kelmendi] What did officials say about the situation in the field of human rights, or rather their violation, in Kosovo?

[Lenoir] What they said reminded me of the old chorus about socialist prosperity. Fortunately, this chorus can only be heard in Kosovo. The officials merely repeat the official views of Serbia and consider them to be the sole key to solving this very tangled question. I hope I am not interfering in Yugoslavia's internal affairs, or Serbia's, if you wish, when in this context I mention the segregation of pupils and students of different nationalities in Kosovo. If this were not what is happening, the Ministry of Education of Serbia, together with that of Kosovo, would organize, instead of school ghettos, joint talks among Albanian and Serbian pupils and students in order to quell hatred and create mutual affection. After all, this is happening now in South Africa.

[Kelmendi] You have also seen people who are ill following the mysterious "epidemic." What do you think of this new situation?

[Lenoir] I do not know what to say about the "epidemic." I am neither a doctor nor a specialist. This was one of the subjects we raised with Kosovo officials. We expressed our concern and asked for the creation of an international health commission to carry out tests on the sick. They told us that this matter is not within their authority.

[Kelmendi] As indeed it is not.

[Lenoir] Very well, but the Yugoslav federation should nevertheless do something in this direction. As for me, I trust the report of the doctors who went to Podujevo. Let us hope to God there was no poisoning.

[Kelmendi] It is another kind of poison that has destroyed interethnic relations in Kosovo. What can be done about it?

[Lenoir] The Yugoslav federation should not hide behind the decisions of Serbia. For a long time now, its voice has been heard less and less on the subject of Kosovo. With the authority that it wields throughout the country, the federation should have formed a commission to talk with the progressive forces of the Kosovo opposition. Only dialogue with them, and with the Serbs too, can eliminate this poison. Besides, violence and repression are old- fashioned and ineffective methods of quelling discontent. Violence and repression are typical of autocratic states, and I have never considered Yugoslavia as such.

[Kelmendi] We parted from Fabienne, wishing her a pleasant stay in what she called nervous Kosovo.

SAWP Discusses Loss of Albanian Members

AU0304164190 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 30 Mar 90 p 6

[D. Blakaj report: "Why Is the Membership Leaving the Socialist Alliance of Working People?"]

[Text] The 29 March meeting of the Presidium of the Pristina Socialist Alliance of Working People [SAWP] Communal Conference, chaired by Arif Osmani, examined reports on the phenomenon of the secession of some local conferences and associations from SAWP membership. This phenomenon was stated to be a new kind of organized activity from positions of Albanian nationalism and separatism and, it was said, "essentially represents continued efforts to destroy the system's legal institutions and to paralyze the work of sociopolitical organizations in the commune." A number of Albanians are being manipulated into leaving the SAWP, whose branches are being transformed into branches of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance, the Peasants' Party, and the Kosovo Youth Parliament. The reports sent so far to this conference show that many SAWP associations that have become branches of other parties have put forward many reasons for taking such a step and have stated that from now on they will not recognize the leadership as their representatives in state bodies. At the same time, they have presented various demands, which were said at the 29 March meeting to be unacceptable.

Concerning the phenomenon of desertions from the SAWP, Predrag Lazic said that it is a result of the influence of alternative groups that are active in Kosovo and Pristina. It has meant that we have walked out of many local meetings because they called for one minute's silence in homage to the recent victims and because people raised their fingers in victory signs. As we transform the SAWP, it must be explained to the Albanians that they should not join the alternative groups, which are not working for their good.

Dragan Stankovic expressed the view that the resignation of Albanians from the League of Communists, the SAWP, the Socialist Youth Federation, and so forth is their way of fighting to eliminate the state bodies, and that the demands put forward at the many meetings have been political demands, showing that the people are more involved in politics than in other essential matters.

According to Nada Tokovic, the chairmen of the local conferences and the SAWP associations should not have allowed meetings to be held when citizens demanded; she proposed that they should therefore all be dismissed.

The step of leaving the SAWP, according to Radomir Dimic, is an act of treachery to current policies, and the alternative movements are behind it all. He said that there are no grounds for the statements at many meetings that state terror is being waged against the Albanians, and that the Albanian people do not think that way; this, according to him, was shown by their failure to heed the call of the alternative movements to boycott 28 March, the Socialist Republic of Serbia's state holiday.

Arif Osmani, after supporting the assessments of the highest authorities regarding what he called the alleged poisoning of Albanians, which was a scenario devised by the separatists, added, regarding the phenomenon of citizens' leaving the SAWP, that everybody should realize that the state will continue to function in spite of this, as has been shown in recent days when many militiamen throughout the communes of Kosovo have been suspended. We are committed to a common life for everybody in Kosovo, he added, and Kosovo can therefore not be ethnically pure or become a republic. We have the task of guiding the Albanians onto the right path. Whom does it bother that Serbia has acquired the attributes of statehood throughout its territory, he asked, and added that Serbia is committed to the development of Kosovo, as has been shown by the construction of a new village near Kosovo Polje and of new industrial plants in various parts of the province. We must, therefore, all commit ourselves along these lines and convert people to our cause. Anybody who thinks differently has no place here, he said.

The meeting also discussed Radomir Dimic's speech at the meeting of the Presidium of the Pristina SAWP Communal Conference on 16 February 1990, which has been the subject of extended controversy, and the question of whether in his speech he did or did not call the Albanians cannibals, terrorists, the Securitate, gravediggers, fighters in a jihad, and so forth. Journalists were offered what purported to be the transcript of his speech at this meeting, which mentioned cannibalism, but the journalists were not satisfied with this report and demanded to hear the tape recording itself, which was not allowed. The conference presidium decided to issue a statement to the public on this matter.

News Conference on Situation in Kosovo

AU0304105290 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Mar 90 p 4

["D.S."- and "S.P."-signed report: "A Farce With Two Aims"]

[Text] Belgrade—As regards the mass "poisoning" of Albanians, this represents only the first stage of a special war that has two aims. The first is to spread the news in the world that Serbia is not only oppressing, but also poisoning Albanians in Kosovo, and the second is to cause anger among parents, which would in turn lead to bloodshed—because they behave irrationally when it comes to their children—which is something Serbs and Montenegrins would again be blamed for.

This was stated on 27 Macrh at a news conference in the International News Conference Center for foreign and domestic journalists by Serbian Executive Council President Stanko Radmilovic. The news conference about the current situation in Kosovo was also attended by

republican Internal Affairs Secretary Radmilo Bogdanovic, and republican Health Secretary Vladimir Petronic.

Radmilovic stressed that Kosovo has been an integral and inseparable part of the Socialist Republic of Serbia for centuries, and that it therefore can and should have a relatively high degree of autonomy, but without elements of statehood and the possibility of setting itself up as a republic and secession from Yugoslavia. The program for Kosovo does not only cater to Serbs and Montenegrins, but also to Albanians. It was devised to ensure equality, but nothing more than that, which is, I think logical, Radmilovic said.

Full democracy cannot bypass Kosovo. A multiparty system will be allowed to freely operate in this province without any ideological restrictions (except, of course, when it comes to preventing attacks on territorial integrity and stoking up interethnic hatred).

Vladimir Petronic repeated that the analyses performed by a team of medical experts (who come from of competent federal and republican bodies) show that there is no trace of any infectious epidemic or mass poisoning with food or water in Kosovo.

7 People Arrested

Radmilo Bogdanovic informed those present that in the last few days, 64 citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality were attacked and that six of them were seriously injured. So far the authorities have arrested seven persons—Albanians who inflicted bodily harm to nine other persons.

Union of Independent Kosovo Journalists Forms

LD0304191390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1348 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Pristina, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—Polarization is continuing in Kosovo. Albanians are continuing to leave legal organizations and associations to form single nation ones. The latest division has occurred within the Kosovo Journalists' Association. Some journalists of Albanian nationality left the association and founded the Union of Independent Journalists of Kosovo. It has been claimed that more than 200 Kosovo journalists of Albanian naitonality have joined the union.

The founding meeting, which adopted the statute and program and elected the 10-member presidium, left four places for Serbs, Montenegrins and members of other nations and nationalities. However, it is interesting that no representative of non-Albanian nationality was invited to or knew about the meeting. [passage omitted: the union will abide by the journalist code of conduct; it will urge delegates of the Kosovo Assembly not to approve the change to the SFRY Constitution]

The founding assembly of the Independent Kosovo Journalists was held on the premises of the Kosovo Writers' Society. [pasage omitted recalling last year's split along national lines in the society]

Recently, writers of Serbian, Montengrin and Muslim nationality set in motion an initiative to found a new organization. It will be called the Kosovo and Metohija Writers' Society. It will be, as stated in the invitation to the founding assembly scheduled for 5 April, an independent social organization of writers of all nationalities and all literal and aesthetic orientations. The explanation for the move notes that after more than a year of paralysis in the Kosovo Writers' Society, several attempts were made to redirect the program and work of the organization toward equal and joint interests and aims, but that all proposals were rejected.

Since the existing writers' organization has turned into an appendage of the newly formed separatist party, no reasons exist for it to be redirected to serve the well-being of all national structures in the province, the statement by the initiative committee of the new Kosovo and Metohija Writers' Society says.

Serbian National Resistance on Fate of Serbia

LD0304171290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1440 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—The leaders of the Serbian National Renaissance [SNO] have sent a proclamation to the domestic public and foreign diplomatic representative offices and journalists in our country, in which they express "alarming concern" at the fate of the Serbian nation in Yugoslavia.

Their address to the public is directly inspired by the forthcoming elections in Slovenia and Croatia that, in the SNO's opinion, represent "the final act of the break-up of Serbian territories and the placing of parts of the Serbian nation under the control of the hostile regimes of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia."

The proclamation says that "the fragmentation of the state area of the historical life of the Serbian nation" will take place, after the completion of the elections in the present—SNO claims—"illegitimate and invalid borders" of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia. SNO expresses some kind of fear that the Serbian nation "will remain as a national minority in the disfavor of the new regimes" and it also "envisions" that the new authorities in these republics "will certainly be extremely hostile to the Serbian nation."

Dramatically intoning its statement, SNO proclaims its fear of the forthcoming elections and their "deleterious" effects on Serbs living outside the republic of Serbia as "absolutely illegitimate and invalid," as well as "all the constitutional, legal and political decisions, elections and other measures and acts that are adopted and carried out by whoever within present-day Yugoslavia." Proclaiming in this way the forthcoming elections in Slovenia and Croatia as "illegitimate and invalid," SNO nevertheless "allows" the possibility of their being held,

but only after "the historical, ethnic and legal borders of Serbia—the common state of all Serbs living in Yugoslavia today—are established and secured."

Trifunovic Talks About Serbia in Timok Area

LD0304210290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1824 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Zajecar, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—Ending his two-day working visit to the Timok Area, Dr. Bogdan Trifunovic, president of the Serbian League of Communists [LC] Central Committee, said in Zajecar tonight that the situation in the country is so bad that the economy is facing collapse and the federation disintegration. In his speech to the regional political aktiv on the incipient transformation of the Serbian LC into a party striving for democratic socialism, he expressed the hope that progressive forces will vigorously resist chauvinist, separatist, secessionist and all other onslaughts on the achievements of the revolution, and successfully halt retrograde developments and relations in the country. [passage omitted on decisions of the Eighth Plenum]

Commenting on the adjournment of the extraordinary congress and on the recent plenum of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee, Trifunovic said that Serbia is always open to a calm contest of arguments and coordination of interests because it is convinced that the common language of Yugoslavia, based on the principles of the Antifascist Council of the National Liberation of Yugoslavia, has not been and will not be lost. However, Serbia rejects the compromises that jeopardize her statehood and economic and political equality in the federation and she certainly will not pass in silence over the impassionate slanders emanating from the northwestern republics.

Besides, as far as we are concerned, Trifunovic stressed, the patience of those who are well-intentioned for unprincipled disputes and idle debates in the forums has run out, while, of course, one cannot negotiate with traitors. [passage omitted on political middlemen not succeeding]

Serb Representative Walks Out of Session

AU0304200690 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24-25 Mar 90 p 11

[S. Lekic report: "Veterans 'Following Fashion' Too"]

[Excerpt] Belgrade—"What has happened today and what has been happening in the last few days shows that we are heading toward a repeat of the Congress of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia." This was said by Rudi Kolaka near the end of the session of the Presidium of the Federation of the National Liberation War Veterans Association [SUBNOR] of Yugoslavia, which lasted several hours, was at times painful, and confirmed the rumors about a rift at the top of the veterans' organization, above all.

What happened was that Mihajlo Svabic, president of the Republican Committee of SUBNOR of Serbia, demonstratively walked out of the session after voting by Presidium members and the decision was made to remove from the agenda the discussion that had been announced for today on the letter by the Slovene veterans organization, in which Svabic is called to account for some of his "public statements." This decision was preceded by a two-and-a-half-hour debate that was marked by exclusivity, intolerance, and even some uncontrolled statements that those in the know say have never been heard at sessions of this body.

Even though it was announced yesterday that this point was being taken off the agenda (which members of the Presidium resolutely denied in talks with journalists), it seemed that there would nevertheless still be a "crossing of swords." However, Metodije Kotevski appealed for the initiative for putting this point on the agenda to be withdrawn and stressed in his explanation that this involved "the sincere desire not to allow mutual relations to deteriorate." Tomo Sofronijevski and Ahmet Dzubo agreed with him and Borka Korac proposed that ("because of the negative effects of a possible discussion") President Risto Dzunov should hold a discussion with "the interested parties, inform the Presidium of the results, and only then should a decision be made on what to do." On behalf of veterans from Kosovo, Zivorad Ivic stressed that some things must be cleared up, and his colleague from the same grass-roots organization, Fadilj Curanoli, advocated dialogue between the Serbian and Slovene veterans. Explaining that this did not involve a compromise but an effort to preserve unity, Vladimir Kapicic also proposed a peaceful solution without quarrels and conflicts on behalf of the Montenegrin veterans. Miroslav Gone held quite a different view when he said: "We should smooth things over." Risto Dzunov, SUBNOR of Yugoslav president, then reacted and informed those present that the documents indicated that all sorts of things had been ascribed to Svabic that he did not say and then allowed Svabic and the Slovene delegation to speak, on whose behalf Bojan Polak said that it will "abide by the wishes of the Presidium!"

Svabic reacted by saying that "the comrades kept quiet when everyone was speaking out in Yugoslavia and now they are going to abide by the wishes of others!" Calling such a stand crude and stating that the Slovene letter was full of slander and imputations, he said that it was improper for him to be asked to refrain from replying ("they have defamed me so much without giving me a chance to explain myself") and to put him, the Serbian Veterans Association, and Serbian politics in an unequal position. He also stated that everything could be resolved peacefully only if Slovene Veterans Association representatives publicly apologized and withdrew the initiative. Bojan Polak did not agree to this solution.

As the session continued, quite sharp words were exchanged between the representatives of the Serbian and Slovene veterans and there were even insults and vulgar conduct. After the voting (10 for, four against,

and three abstentions) Borka Korac's proposal was endorsed and this point was removed from the agenda. Visibly agitated, Mihajlo Svabic said after the voting that the decision had been made by outvoting that he and the veterans organization of Serbia should not be allowed to speak, and he then demonstratively left the session. [passage omitted]

Croatia To Withdraw Contingent from Kosovo

LD0304135590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1232 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—The Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly has decided to withdraw the militia unit of the republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs within the combined unit of the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs in Kosovo. The decision was adopted at today's session at which consideration was given to the political security situation, and in this connection assessments were made on the engagement of the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs unit from the Socialist Republic of Croatia within the combined unit.

(?With the decision) of the Socialist Republic of Serbia Presidency on the undertaking of the job of protecting the constitutional order and personal safety of Kosovo citizens by the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Serbia, the reasons for the engagement in Kosovo of militia units from other socialist republics and provinces have ceased to exist.

New Parties Registered in Croatia

LD0304110190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0743 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 3 April (TANJUG)—The Republican Secretariat for Administration and Justice of the Socialist Replubic of Croatia has so far registered a total of 33 political parties in this republic. In addition to this, several social organizations that have intimated that at the elections they will field their own candidates, such as, for example, the Union of Greens of Croatia, the Federation of Associations of National Liberation War Veterans, and the Socialist Youth Federation, have also been registered.

In the past 10 days or so, three new parties have been registered on the political scene of the Socialist Republic of Croatia. These are the Bosnian Democratic Party, the Democratic Christian Party, and the Green Party (Rijeka).

Democratic Alliance of Croatia Political Broadcast

LD0304195990

[Editorial Report] Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1505 GMT on 28 March carries a 30-minute party political broadcast in its "Elections '90" program.

The Autonomous Democratic Alliance of Croatia is represented by (Vesna Tersalic), (Darinko Kosar), and (Benjamin Tarasic). The representatives say their party has close ties with and cooperates with, among others, the European Green List, the Transnational Radicals, and others. They also work with Women's Help Now and the Association of the Disabled.

Discussing their electoral program, they say they favor reducing the funds of the Yugoslav People's Army and using the resources saved to help the economic reform. They favor economic reform, but not as an end in itself or at any price.

The representatives believe all Yugoslav republics should join the European Federation. They also believe Yugoslvia should be a federation of independent states acting independently except for more nationally oriented subjects, like armed forces, foreign affairs, and the national economy. They do not want the republics to have armies of their own. The party favors the Army but recognizes some young people genuinely do not want to do their military service. They believe instead in allowing people to do their national service in hospitals and in old people's homes, which are underfunded.

The representatives want the adjective socialist to be dropped from the title of the Croat republic. Socialist is an ideological concept and as such has no place in the official name of a country, they claim.

Discussing ecology, they listed several Zagreb problems that must be corrected—provision of running water for everyone, seweage systems, parks, cyclists' lanes, and provision of trash can tops were mentioned. They foresee a situation when electric power will have to be imported.

Two other topics discussed were education and the use of socially owned premises by all bona fide organizations.

Croatian Elections Scheduled 21, 22 Apr

AU0304192190 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Mar 90 p 9

[R. Arsenic report: "The First Round of Elections"]

[Text] Zagreb, 23 Mar—The first postwar multiparty elections to be held in the Socialist Republic of Croatia have been scheduled for 21 and 22 April. Almost 3.5 million voters will on this occasion elect new representatives to the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly and the communal assemblies.

Out of the three systems that exist in the world (the system of the relative majority, the system of the absolute majority, and proportional representation), Croatia has chosen the system of the absolute majority that is used in France.

According to the electoral law, the candidates in the electoral units are put forward by a certain number of citizens who sign a petition: Fifty citizens with the right

to vote or five percent of voters in the electoral unit are needed to propose candidates for a communal assembly, and the signatures of 100 citizens are needed for a city commune, while at least 400 signatures (500 for the Social Political Chamber) are needed for candidates for elections to the chambers of the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly or five percent of voters in an electoral unit. The name of each candidate must be accompanied by the name of the party or other organization that initiated the collection of signatures, and if the candidate is independent this should also be indicated. It will obviously not be easy for voters to decide between the many candidates because so far around 30 political parties and organizations have officially registered here.

As a candidate needs to win more than half the votes in order to be elected —which is very difficult because of the scattered distribution of votes—a second round of elections will have to be held in most units after 14 days. Candidates who have received at least seven percent of the votes will run in this second round. The person who wins an ordinary majority [obicna vecina] is then considered to be the winner.

Bosnia-Hercegovina CC Presidium Statement

LD0304221190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1612 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—The Central Committee [CC] Presidium of the LC [League of Communists] of Bosnia and Hercegovina [BH] proceeds from the fact that the conviction has matured among the membership of the LC BH that the LCY [League of Communists of Yugoslavia] can no longer function and operate on the foundations and on the political relations on which it has rested so far. The course of events during the last LCY CC session has demonstrated the nature of the negative consequences that can be produced by an attempt to revive the political relations and methods of activity that the LC BH has already left behind. This, among other things, is said in the statement issued from today's Presidium session of the CC of Bosnia and Hercegovina, during which the proposal was reiterated that independently and in cooperation with other parts of the LC, the LC BH should involve itself in drafting a comprehensive program platform to have a new LCY congress convened.

The stands published at this session said that the accusations that the ledership of the LC BH is working to break up the LCY are groundless and unacceptable. Expressing both the deepest interests and aspirations of the nations and nationalities in Bosnia and Hervegovina, says the statement, the LC BH has been and will remain consistent in its struggle for the unity of Yugoslav Communists on the essential questions of the future of the SFRY, and will go on insisting on the formulation of necessary polical conditions enabling the Yugoslav Communists to unite, on new foundations, into a democratic and general-Yugoslav party.

The stands that, with the methods of exclusivity and demonstration of power and ultimatums, and at any price, ignore a series of constructive proposals, not only by the leadership of the LC BH, but by other parts of the LC, cannot contribute to the development of new democratic relations, says the statement. This is why we endorse all the initiatives from all parts of the LC leading to democratic renewal and reintegration of the LCY. It is unacceptable that the stands of the LC BH put forward by LCY CC members from the LC BH should be simply ignored, which is what happened at that session. This created an unfavorable atmosphere for the solution of one of the most serious crisis in LCY history.

The Presidium, the statement continues, especially points out that no matter where they emanate from, political orientation and specific activities that, objectively speaking, lead not only to the breakup of the LCY but to the splitting of the LC of Bosnia and Hercegovina on a national basis, cannot be accepted. No one has the right to exclude individual parts of the LC from the LCY and impose himself as the only legitimate representative of the LCY program orientation.

Since, in keeping with the democratic transformation of the LC, transformations have recently taken place of the present republican and provincial LCs into parties of democratic socialism or parties of social reform or change, it would be counterproductive to ask the 14th Extraordinary Congress to resume its proceedings. Precisely because of these changes, the program documents prepared for the 14th Extraordinary LCY Congress have been made obsolete in some essential commitments and cannot constitute the basis for convening its third plenary session, stresses the statement.

In connection with the letter that the participants in the working and consultative meeting of the LCY Central Committee had addressed to the membership of the LC BH, the Presidium believes that every LC member has the right and the responsibility personally to take a stand regarding the contents, intentions, and consequences of this letter and especially regarding a possible dilution of the LC republican organizations. The Presidium expects that the LC membership will realistically perceive and understand why the LCY Central Committee members from the LC BH walked out of the working and consultative meeting in the LCY Central Committee, and that they will equally understand and accept the political platform for which we are pressing and in which we are expressing our conviction that it still is not too late for a comprehensive renewal of the political identity of every part of the LC and of the LC as a general Yugoslav political organization, concludes the statement issued at the session of the CC Presidium of the LC of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Rejects Accusations

LD0304215490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1948 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 3 (TANJUG)—The leadership of the League of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina has rejected accusations that it was breaking up the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), describing them as unfounded and unacceptable. It said that it would continue to work on its unification into a democratic and all- Yugoslav party.

The members of the Central Committee (CC) of the League of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina walked out of last Friday's [30 March] CC session, describing it as "fait accompli".

The representatives of Slovenia, Croatia and Macedonia did not attend the Belgrade session.

The Bosnia-Hercegovina party leadership has suggested that it start work on a platform for a new party congress independently and in cooperation with the other Leagues of Communists.

The idea was today supported by the party organization of Skopje, the capital of Yugoslavia's southern Republic of Macedonia.

The 14th Special LCY Congress was interrupted on January 23 after the Slovenian delegates walked out.

Addressing Skopje Communists, President of the LC of Macedonia CC—the Party of Democratic Changes—Petar Gosev said that the 15th LCY Congress should be prepared by a coordinating body which would be made up of the presidents of republican and provincial parties which would be established after the present LCY Presidency and CC resign.

The remaining members of the LCY CC—Serbia, its two provinces—Vojvodina and Kosovo, Montenegro and the Yugoslav People's Army, have sent a letter to Yugoslav Communists. Macedonian party leader Gosev assessed it as an open attempt to abolish republican party organizations.

In the meantime, Serbian LC CC president Bogdan Trifunovic has said that [word indistinct] was not to responsible for the rift, but those who are against the Yugoslav character of the party.

They are for a confederative, not a federatve Yugoslavia, he said addressing Communists of the mining basin Bor in eastern Serbia.

Trifunovic said that the League of Communists of Serbia urges a democratic, socialist federative Yugoslavia and a unified League of Communists.

Religious Communities Urged To Support Reforms

LD0304194590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1633 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sarajevo, Apr 3 (TANJUG)—Religious communities in Yugoslavia's republic Bosnia-Hercegovina may help develop mutual trust, tolerance and understanding—Bogic Bogicevic, member of the Yugoslav State Presidency, said today at a meeting with representatives of all religious communities in this central Yugoslav republic.

Bosnia-Hercegovina's multi-national and mutliconfessional republic is populated by about 40 per cent Muslims, 30 per cent Eastern Orthodox Serbs and Montenegrins, and some 15 per cent of Roman Catholics.

Under the strained inter-nationality relations and inter-republic feuds in Yugoslavia, the authorities in Bosnia-Hercegovina work hard to maintain the delicate inter-nationality balance amongst the population composed out of these different nations and religions.

Bogicevic called the representatives of religious communities to help democratic processes in the country, which, as he said, would also create a greater scope for religious freedoms. He assessed that national and religious differences were not impeding normal living together in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The religious representatives pointed out that all religious communities were pro-Yugoslav oriented and that they were supporting the democratic processes in Yugoslav society. They expect that the new political conditions would enable better work conditions for all religious communities.

Bosnia-Hercegovina National Groups Criticized

LD0304132590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1030 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Sarajevo, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—The Socialist Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency today warned that, regardless of their motives, single-nationality political organizations of citizens would benefit not a single nation or nationality in this republic, let alone the one on whose behalf they would be set up. This has been indicated by a widespread reaction of citizens who are concerned about attempts to disrupt the fateful legacies and unquestionable results of coexistence in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

In the view of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency, under present conditions single-nationality political organizations will only serve to deepen divisions among the nations and nationalities in Bosnia-Hercegovina and to further exacerbate the already difficult political situation in the republic.

Kucan Addresses Slovene Election Rally

LD0404120590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0942 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 4 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia remains the first choice for Slovenes, because it is a state in which they have their rights and obligations and to the creation of which they had agreed, said Milan Kucan, one of the four candidates for president of the industrialized Yugoslav republic of Slovenia, at an election rally yesterday [3 April] evening.

Kucan, former chief of Slovene Communists, appears in the elections called for April 8 as the candidate of this party which has, after the collapse of the federal League of Communists (LCY), changed its name to the League of Communists of Slovenia - Party of Democratic Reform.

Commenting on the announcement of individual opposition parties in Slovenia that, if they win the election, they will work for an autonomous Slovenia, Kucan told the voters that it was particularly unnecessary to be leaving Yugoslavia at a time when processes of democratization were on the ascent in all its parts.

Relations within Yugoslavia should be regulated in rational political talks after democratic multi-party elections in all the republics, Kucan stressed.

Slovenes are demanding for themselves the position they recognize to all the others in Yugoslavia, in order that they should sovereignly decide how they will live in their republic and sovereignty regulate relations with the other nations, Kucan said.

He assessed that the parties organized in the Slovene democratic opposition were conducting a dirty election campaign, putting on their posters the candidates of the League of Communists of Slovenia - Party of Democratic Reform alongside Stalin, Ceausescu and other dictators.

Slovenia's Potrc on Changing Federation

LD0304193390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1545 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Ljubljana, Apr 3 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia's Republic Slovenia awaits changes in the relations within Yugoslavia's federation—Slovenian Parliament President Miran Potrc told a press conference here today.

These days, Slovenian parliament made it clear that Slovenia was calling for confederated relations in Yugoslavia. [as received] Potrc warned that in case dialogues were not opened on changes in the country's relations, awareness might grow in Slovenia that this republic had no prospects for itself within Yugoslavia. Potrc thus also answered a newsman's question as to Slovenia's seceding from Yugoslavia.

The adoption of amendments to the Slovenian Constitution, Potrc said, was the opening of the process of forming a Yugoslav community of equal nations.

The adoption of Slovenian amendments last autumn, including that on the right to secession, was followed by massive protests in the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

Potrc explained that the fact that the word "socialist" was dropped from the name of the Republic of Slovenia did not affect in any way the relations in Yugoslavia, nor did it mark Slovenia's renouncing whatever is socialist.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic's program, in view of the economic system, is along the lines of Slovenia's commitments, said Potrc and added that the federal government's proposed strengthening of the federation's functions was not acceptable for Slovenia.

Potrc stressed that for the first time after the war Slovenia has legalized the full equality of political parties, setting the stage for free and direct elections.

In Slovenia, the multi-party elections will be held on April 8.

Election Posters Link Ribicic With Stalin

AU0304155690 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1330 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] The posters that are being displayed in Slovenia by Social Democratic Alliance of Slovenia members and that present Ciril Ribicic in company with Stalin, Ceausescu, Honecker, and Kim il-Song are such a vile and perverse act that it is difficult to believe it is possible. This was said in a special public statement by Zdravko Tomec, member of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Renewal.

Tomec further says that all the intellectuals and democrats must fear false Slovene democrats who want to grab power at any cost. The question justifiably arises what these so-called democrats would do if they gained power. These brave democrats, Tomec says, forget that Ciril Ribicic is precisely the man who publicly tied his fate to the success of Slovene constitutional amendments, and that the Slovene Communists headed by Kucan and Ribicic said their historic no to the strivings for state socialism symbolized by Morina and Milosevic.

The whole matter is nevertheless useful, because every citizen may now see what democrats he has to deal with.

Ljubljana, Maribor Poll Shows Kucan Leading

AU0304140290

[Editorial Report] Ljubljana DELO in Slovene on 30 March on pages 1 and 3 carries a 700-word report by Marko Pecauer entitled "Results of DELO Election Dress Rehearsal" on a poll conducted by DELO in Ljubljana and Maribor on 29 March. A mock polling

booth was set up in each town, and a total of 1,591 passers-by cast their votes for Presidency of Slovenia president and members.

Pecauer remarks that "the opinions of the passers-by who took part in our election dress rehearsal cannot be extended to all the Slovene voters by generalization. The structure of the passers-by was quite different from the structure of Slovene voters. Many more men than women responded to our poll, as many as one-third were between the ages of 20 and 30, and their education was considerably above the Slovene average."

Pecauer reports that "the votes for the Presidency members were cast as follows: Ciril Zlobec obtained 14.0 percent of votes, Ivan Oman 11.9 percent, Dimitrij Rupel 10.9, Matjaz Kmecl 10.4, Alojz Krizman 9.1, Dusan Plut 8.5, Slavoj Zizek 8.5, Bogdan Oblak 7.0, Miroslava Gec-Korosec 5.6, Bostjan M. Zupancic 5.6, Franc Miklavcic 4.4, and Peter Novak 4.1 percent of votes."

The results of the poll for Presidency president are displayed in a pie chart. The number of respondents in Ljubljana is said to have been 1,013, and in Maribor 561. The percentage votes for the candidates were:

Milan Kucan	40.6
Joze Pucnik	34.4
Ivan Kramberger	12.1
Marko Demsar	11.7
Invalid	1.2

Greens Lead in Slovene Opinion Poll

AU0304133390

[Editorial Report] Ljubljana DELO in Slovene on 31 March on pages 1 and 3 carries an 800-word report by Slava Partlic on an opinion poll conducted over the telephone by DELO "among 511 citizens of Slovenia on 28 and 29 March," entitled "The Public About Elections." The sample is not further defined.

The results are presented in four charts described below. The figures are as published.

Chart 1: "Slovene Parliament according to DELO poll"

The Greens of Slovenia	31.3percent
LCS [former initials of the League of Communists of Slovenia]-Party of Democratic Reform	25.0
Social Democratic Alliance of Slovenia	20.2
Slovene Peasant Alliance	18.8
Slovene Democratic Alliance	18.0
ZSMS [former initials of the Slovene Socialist Youth Federation]-Liberal Party	15.3
Slovene Christian Democrats	13.9
Slovene Artisans Party	12.9
Gray Panthers	10.4
Socialist Alliance of Slovenia	6.1
Independent List	1.2
Slovene Artisans and Entrepreneurs Party	1.2
List of New Social Movements	0.8
Alliance for the Preservation of Equality of Citizens	0.8
Italian Community	0.4
Democratic Alliance of Kosovo	0.2
Alliance of Pensioners Associations in Maribor	0.2
Citizens' Green List	0
Don't know yet	29.0
Undecided	2.7

Chart 2: "What solution do you suggest if no party receives the necessary majority in the elections to the republican assembly?"

National salvation government	25.1percent
Government of experts	19.8
Repeat elections	31.9
Others	1.4
Don't know	21.8

Chart 3: "Which of the candidates for the Presidency president will you vote for?"

	14-15 Mar	21-22 Mar	28-29 Mar
Demsar	4 percent	6.4percent	3.8percent
Kramberger	5.6	7.1	2.6
Kucan	37	41.4	47
Pucnik	11.9	12.8	17.8
Don't know	39.9	26.6	25.9
None	3.7	1.8	
Will not vote	1.6	1.6	1.2

Chart 4: "The voters would distribute their votes among the candidates for the members of the Presidency as follows:"

The chart contains no exact figures and the percentages indicated by the lengths of the respective bars can be estimated only approximately against a scale at the bottom of the chart.

	14-15 Mar	21-22 Mar	28-29 Mar
M. Kmecl	17percent	13 percent	14.5percent
F. Miklavcic	3	4	6
I. Oman	13	9	12
D. Plut	7	6.5	7
D. Rupel	8	9	9.5
B.M. Zupancic	5	6	4
C. Zlobec	17	19	21
P. Novak	6	5	5
M. Gec-Korosec	4	5	4.5
A. Krizman	6	7	7
B. Oblak	5	6	5
S. Zizek	8	8	4

Communists 'Stand Chance' in Next Elections

AU0304183990 Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian 25 Mar 90 p 1

[Snezana Rakocevic-Novakovic commentary: "The Return of Those Who Have Been Written Off"]

[Text] "The chances that we will win the majority of votes at the elections are real"—said the champion of the Slovene Communists, Ciril Ribicic, with a reasonable dose of optimism to the leading members of the Macedonian Communists two days ago.

"We will definitely win"—Petar Gosev was categorical in his reply to his guest from Slovenia.

"We will get 70 percent of the vote"—Nijaz Durakovic said in Bosnia-Hercegovina, where alternative parties are still operating from the sidelines.

The League of Communists is still holding the scepter in its hands in Serbia and Montenegro, where sporadic attacks by the newly founded parties are seen by the public as attacks by Lilliputians on Gulliver who feels attacks as uncomfortable tickling.

Only in Croatia are the Communists not beating their chest, probably aware that the election campaign will be exhausting and the winner uncertain. Nonetheless, hopes for a victory exist despite the fact that the parties running in the elections are aggressive and ready for a coalition that none of them would want to form with the Communists.

All in all, optimism is great among the Communists, among those who have in recent years been showered by the brickbats of our troubles, disagreements, and omissions, among those who were put in the dock for leading the country to the edge of an abyss. This is the optimism of those who have been preparing in the past year their own funeral which, according to their, Communist forecasts, will not take place after all. However, very few people today regard their forecasts seriously in view of the fact that they proved to be bad at forecasting in the more recent past when, because of "optimism" (which is probably a euphemism for intentional blindness), even the crisis that we were plunging into was not supposed to be called a crisis.

Nevertheless, forecasts are the obligatory part of the election contest, and we are all forecasters. Therefore the Communists, too, have the right to believe that they will win. How can this optimism be explained? The search for the possible sources of optimism would lead in different directions. In this election race, in which the aim is not only to win the leading place, but also to assume what follows the pleasure of winning it (which is power), De Coubertin's maxim, "the important thing is to participate," is not understood in its usual meaning and is not applicable in the election campaign.

Therefore, the victory mood (even though it may be artificial and without any obvious grounds) can be interpreted as part of the election (psychological) campaign.

Moreover, considering the fact that the Communists have been seeing a mirage for a long time, the unexpected optimism could be the continuation of an illusion of being irreplaceable and almighty. However, in this arrangement of forces on the pluralist scene that is characterized by numerous parties and associations that have not found enough strength to move away from nationalist flags, and have not offered serious program solutions to Yugoslavia's national question and the question of how to live together, the League of Communists indeed has a chance. Its attitudes, whatever they may be, toward the national question have a general Yugoslav dimension that guarantees national equality based on the AVNOJ [Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia] principles, which are indeed the sole essence around which and for which we should gather together. In the competition with the likes of Tudjman, Draskovic, and other nationalistically tainted chieftains, the Communists, as they are, and as much criticized and denied as they may be, have a chance after all. This chance was created precisely by those who needed the democratization of all relations in Yugoslavia in order to dismantle it. Margaritas ante porcos, as old Romans would have said. And indeed, just as pearls were cast to swine so was democracy in our country cast to hungry national wolves, and judging by everything that has been happening before our eyes, the democratization of our political and other relations will benefit them the most. This is also helped by the fact that no serious pan-Yugoslav party seems to be able to establish itself in the pluralist milieu. We are facing the kind of pluralism we did not want. Therefore, seen from this angle, the Communists' subjective optimism sounds pretty objective. The messages of the rejected Communists sound like Maranatha, like calling for Christ's second coming, especially since God recently entered the party.

Montenegro LC Demands Opening of Archives

LD0304223890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1648 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Summary] Titograd, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—After considering an open letter from a group of citizens seeking the revelation of the full truth concerning Goli Otok [small coastal island used in the post-1948 period as a concentration camp], the Montenegro League of Communists [LC] Central Committee Presidium today demanded that the appropriate bodies open their old archives and inform the public of the fate of the innocent sufferers who were inhumanely tortured and unfairly branded politically as "Cominform supporters." The Central Committee's archive and its many contemporary files are accessible to all interested parties. It now is believed that other state and political bodies should do likewise.

Markovic on Restructuring National Economy

LD0304222390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1817 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 3 Apr (TANJUG)—The Federal Executive Council [FEC] has introduced, according to its president, Ante Markovic, a new way of promoting both its projects and the government itself in our country. In the presence of the presidents of all republican and provincial Executive Councils, the FEC in Ljubljana presented the new government project for restructuring of the Yugoslav economy through setting up small and medium-scale enterprises.

This process has already started, as confirmed by the figure of 13,000 new enterprises in Yugoslavia last year and of 500 joint investment contracts, which had not been accomplished in the previous 20 years. However, it is necessary to speed up this process, and professionally and financially back and enable all those with assets and expertise and wanting to invest in lucrative businesses to do so. The government counts on the support of foreign partners, banks and our people abroad. It is calculated that during the next two years, solely in monetary terms, our investment will be to the tune of $3.5 billion, to which expertise, positive experiences in the world, and others should be added. The government will set up a special agency that will coordinate the work on the project. The agency headquarters will be in Ljubljana, in the most experienced environment in the country in this area.

FEC President Ante Markovic talked about the project and stressed among other things that it is the essence of the economic reform program, which is itself the basis for restructuring the political system of the organization of the state. In a year, the government has, according to him, formed the basic prerequisites for the new system and there is no going back to the system that in government is already being referred to colloquially as the former one.

Ante Markovic spoke in particular about the features of the new state, which, simply put, has as its main aim the well-being of society and the creation of conditions in which the autonomy of all subjects, of the individual, and of the enterprises of the system will be affirmed. Markovic drew attention to the latest information on the state of the foreign currency reserves, which this morning stood at $7.7 billion, the fall in inflation from 64 percent in December to 2.6 percent in March, the anticipated deflation, and to other statistics that show that the government is doing well.

The FEC president talked in particular to journalists following the promotion of the government project and stressed that the government is not afraid of criticism because the results show the real state of affairs. People predicted, he said, that we would fall in June, then in September, and in December last year; they predicted that the foreign currency reserves would run out by February and that the convertibility of the dinar would fall with them; they claim that the dinar is overvalued and undervalued.

The fact is, however, that for some East European countries Yugoslavia is West Europe, our markets are like those in the West, and it is also a fact that the relation of the deutsche mark to the dinar would not be one to seven, but one to five if the National Bank stopped buying foreign currency. Since the talk of the dinar being overvalued began, the National Bank has purchased $450 million, Markovic said.

The FEC president also dwelled on the frequent political claims that the reform is at a cost to this or that republic, and he stressed that we are entering a system in which the better, more capable, and more efficient will take advantage of the weaker, unlike the previous practice that followed the opposite law. It is true, Markovic said, that our most developed areas have been the first to feel the effects of the economic measures, but also the fact that they will be first to overcome the present difficulties. No one will cross that Rubicon without getting wet, Markovic said, calling once again for the kind of economic system being implemented by the government and that will be compatible with the European system. In this context, he commented on the slogan "Europe now," stressing that if that is what we are advocating both for individuals and enterprises, what use will Europe be to us if we build our economy according to state borders, Markovic said.

Hrvatin Nominated for SAWPY Presidency

LD0304124290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0911 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Zagreb, 3 April (TANJUG)—The Republican Conference of the Socialist Alliance president—the Alliance of Socialists of Croatia—has put forward Josip Hrvatin as president of the Federal Conference of SAWPY [Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia]. Hrvatin is a Croatian Socialist Alliance of Working People delegate in the SAWPY Federal Confer-

ence and secretary of the Federal Conference. It is envisioned that the electoral session of the Federal Conference will be held at the end of April. [passage omitted]

Talks Held With French on Visa Issue

AU0304192390 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] After the report that France intends to scrap entry visas for all citizens of East European countries except the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, representatives of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs have had talks with the French ambassador in our country, and the Yugoslav ambassador in Paris has visited the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The French have denied that this decision has been made. The Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs and the Yugoslav embassy continue to be in constant contact with representatives of France in the quest for a suitable solution to the problem of visas.